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## THE NATIVITY OF JESUS



*The birth of Jesus in the stable at Bethlehem with the Virgin Mother, St. Joseph and the Wise Men from the East*

CRISIS IN INDIAN STUDENT WORLD

SEE PAGE-6

## Story Of X'mas Cards

BY HARVEY DAY

Each year when Christmas is over, I decide firmly that I've posted my last card. Never again shall I waste time and money on them. Yet, each year I write out a formidable list of friends, relatives and acquaintances to whom greetings MUST be sent. Right up to Christmas Eve the names of people I've omitted come to mind, and I dash out to post more cards, cursing with vehemence the entire human race this vicious custom, and the inventor of such greetings.

But, curiously enough, I'm always glad when the postman slips a fresh batch of cards through my letter box. "Fancy," I take one from a handful, "here's a card from old Bill Bodkin. He's in New Guinea!" Were it not for the custom of sending cards a great many friends would pass out of our lives. Nor would they think of us. Christmas cards form a tenuous link. Often they help to renew former friendships on a firmer basis; and they give us moments of pleasure by reminding us that we are not forgotten, even by people we hardly knew.

It is a heart warming custom, though by no means new, for the idea of sending greeting cards to commemorate the season was born centuries ago. The oldest greeting card in existence is a clay medal moulded in 70 B. C. and inscribed: "ANNUM NOVUM FAUSTUM FELICEM TIBI," which means, "A prosperous (and) happy New year to you."

This excellent custom must have lapsed until the late eighteenth century, when the sending of elaborate valentines became the fashion and it was not until ninety years ago that the Christmas card came into vogue.

Christmas was not celebrated by concentrated junketting until Dickens wrote "Christmas Carol" in 1843 and three years later 1,000 Christmas cards were sold.

No one is sure who designed the first Christmas card, though that honour is usually ascribed to John C. Horsley, R. A., who was commissioned by Sir Henry Cole to design some cards for him in 1844. We know that the year before, Horsley designed at least one, for an old copy exists, and was sent by John Washburn and his wife, of 22, Theberton Street, Islington, to James Peters, "wife and family."

But Horsley's claim was contested by A. M. Hind of the British Museum who says that another card, depicting a Roger de Coverley dance, a Christmas dinner, a Punch and Judy show and a distribution of soup at the house and waifs was designed and etched by W. M. Egle, Jr., in 1842. Egle was sixteen at the time. The date on the drawing is somewhat blurred, however, though the Keeper of Prints at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London seemed to think that by the costumes worn, the date must be 1842.

It was not till quite twenty years later that Christmas cards attained real popularity. For this we are indebted to Sir Adolph Tuck, son of the founder of the famous firm that bears his name. His father, Raphael, owned a picture shop in the City Road, but in the eighteen seventies Adolph saw possibilities in the Christmas card and decided to concentrate on them.

Ten years earlier Thierry of Fleet (Continued On Page 8)

### 'INHUMAN RACE'



Wrote in The Akron Beacon Journal

## MOPSY by GLADYS PARKER

A GIRL ALWAYS PUTS HER FOOT IN IT WHEN SHE FINDS A SHOE THAT'S TOO SMALL!



## WEEK-END FUN

"WHAT does this expression 'See you' mean?" asked the judge. The clerk of the court replied: "My lord, it appears that this is a slang expression of American origin which has gained regrettable currency in the language of our people through the insidious agency of the cinema and is, I am led to understand, employed to indicate a state of dubiety in the mind of the speaker as to the veracity or credibility of a statement made to him."

"Oh, yeah! said the judge.

"Two glow-worms met," narrates Ted Ray. "One said to the other: 'I must get a pair of glasses. I spent all last night making love to a cigarette end.'"

"I get on very well with Americans," remarks Madeleine Carroll; "after you've married love or three of them they don't seem like foreigners at all."

"She looks like an edition-de-luxe of a wicked French novel intended for the English market," pronounces Maritza Hunt.

Says Charlie Chester: "I've been trying a libel suit on and it's a bit tight under the arm."

"I'm so tired. I gave a lift to an old man on my way here. I must remember not to do that in future unless I've got the car with me."

"Seeing a French wedding, I asked someone who was getting married. He said, 'Je ne sais pas.' Later the same day I saw a funeral and asked who had died. Another Frenchman said, 'Je ne sais pas.' 'Oh, I said, 'ne didn't last long, did he?'"

"Gosh, my eyes are tired tonight," remarks the young man to his girl friend. "They shouldn't be," she replies. "They've been resting on my knees or the past twenty-eight minutes."

"Ah'm a-goin' to bed now. Ah'm from the South, an' we go to bed early in the South."—"Kentuckian?"—"No, thanks, ah can tuck mahself in."

"Formerly when you had a boll you went to a doctor and he charged you for bursting it. Now, under the National Health Service, you can have it all done for nothin'. This is known as the Free Lance system."

"SOME busybody has told my wife that I took you to a dance the other night," said the manager to his secretary.

"Well what about it?" asked the girl.

"That makes you my former secretary."

"WHAT," someone asked a parliamentary candidate, "will you do if you're elected?"

"Good gracious!" exclaimed the startled candidate. "What will I do if I'm not?"

"Dear," asked the little woman, "is my hat on straight?"

"Yes," her husband replied, impatiently. "Now hurry—we're late already."

"I'm sorry," she replied, "but I'll have to go back. This sort of hat isn't supposed to be worn straight."

A 10-times married woman trudged into the county clerk's office in Knoxville, Tenn., returned license No. 11, explained "I got cold feet."

Quite reasonably, he thought, a man in Dallas, Texas, who was charged with living with two wives, explained: "I've got two jobs."

After cricket comes kick-it. Every day detachable parts are being stolen from parked cars. The police think it is the work of a gang of windscreen swipers.

THREE times, within five minutes of buying a ticket at the cinema, Joe Smith returned and asked for new ones.

Hard-working thieves stole a car from a garage in Worland, Wyo., skidded it into a ditch, returned and stole a wrecker from the same garage, finally had to give up, leaving both car and wrecker in the same ditch.

In Lansing, N. Y., after taking a bump on a railroad crossing, a car landed in the middle of the living-room of a nearby house.

A radio announcer reads the news over before it is due to go on the air. He then breaks it as gently as possible to the public.

The Ministry of Food controls the nation's soap ration. Which explains why the cheese we got last week lathered.

For nutritional value an expert puts spinach above most food. But many cooks insist on putting it below poached eggs.

"When I first heard that joke," says Sam Costa to Murdoch, "I was just a green ration book at the back of my mother's mind."

"Your husband says that when he is angry he always counts ten before he speaks," said one woman to another.

"Yes," answered the other. "I wish he'd stop it. Since he's had dyspepsia, home seems nothing but a class in arithmetic."

## OUT-OF-ORDINARY RISKS

By S. E. Tate

FILM star Monty Woolley recently electrified his fans by having his beard insured for £1,000. He was visiting Harvard University for three weeks and the university authorities requested that his beard be insured against "fire, theft, hail or tornado" whilst he was appearing there. The premium for this temporary cover was £5.

Insurance policies of this nature are not uncommon to underwriters. Film stars are notorious for taking out "peculiar policies". In the past, gilded policies have been written for pretty feminine legs, old clothes, wispy moustaches, and even crossed eyes. Not long ago Bette Davis insured her slimness, fearing, no doubt, that she might suddenly put on weight and thereby terminate her film career. Joan Taylor, the 19-year-old dancer, regards her legs as the key to her future. Consequently, when she learned that she might have to ride a horse in a prospective film, she straightway took out a policy for £25,000 to safeguard herself against this eventuality.

Insurance firms are careful to impose certain safety clauses when they take on these "out-of-the-ordinary" risks. When Frank Morgan insured his moustache and wavy hair for £2,500, the underwriters made it a condition that he must always have his moustache and hair attended to by a responsible barber. Furthermore he had to undergo a medical examination; hair-growth depends on general health, they say. Likewise when Janis Carter insured her eyes for a quarter of a million dollars, the insurance brokers insisted that she must use witch hazel pads on her eye lids while she slept, take occasional vitamin pills, wear sun glasses in brilliant weather, and regularly bathe her eyes in boric acid.

Another pair of eyes which were heavily insured—but not for their beauty—were those of Ben Turpin, the famous cross-eyed comedian. Ben was fond of hunting. What if the discharge of a gun suddenly caused his crossed eyes to go straight? Ben's film career would literally be over in a flash. He therefore insured his crossed eyes to the extent of £20,000.

Very often an insurance policy is taken out just to cover a star during one shot in a particular film. When Olivia de Havilland had to receive a sock on the jaw from Ray Milland in one film scene, the shot was covered by a £25,000 policy.

At one time, publicity was a star's sole motive when applying for insurance. Pola Negri caused something of a sensation when she insured herself against falling in love. Harold Lloyd is accredited with having insured his first pair of horn-rimmed spectacles for £5,000.

Pearl White insured her dimples for £5,500 each. Another famous "publicity insurance" was Buster Keaton's cow. This mild-mannered, sleepy-looking old bovine, known as "Brown Eyes", was not worth more than £12 as beef. But Buster needed a cow (and publicity) for one of his new films. So he made an application for a £25,000 policy on "Brown Eyes" and gave a tea party for her on the lawn of prominent Los Angeles hotel. The policy was never issued but "Brown Eyes" was photographed from every angle (Continued On Page 31)

### 'EXPLODED'



Written in The Philadelphia Inquirer

# TINY TOTS' X'MAS PARADE



Kasamali (left) as 'Indian peasant' 1st Prize. Shannoj (right), little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Chinoy as 'fisherwoman', 2nd Prize.



Mehelli Mody as an 'Old Parsi Gent'.



Roman Daver as 'United India' (left), Saker Cooper as 'Miss Universe' (centre) and Farhad Irani as 'United India' (right) typifying Indo-Pak sartorial combine.



Nina Nasikwala as a "Doll" in a box.

★  
**A** CHILDREN'S Fancy Dress Party with a Christmas Tree was held at the Princess Mary Gymkhana last week.

The party was held for the children of members and guests and was very largely attended, and thoroughly enjoyed by the many little tots who were present. Father Christmas was there, and to the delight of the little ones, gave each one a X'mas gift.

Later in the evening, the judging of the Fancy Dress began, no easy task for three judges.—Mrs. M. F. Moses, Miss Focha and Burjorji.

Eventually the first prize went to Kasamali Jairajbhai, who was dressed as an Indian peasant drummer.

2nd: Shannaj Chinoy who represented a fisherwoman.

3rd: Meher Wadia in a Nurse's Costume.

4th: Feroze Vakil as Cupid.



Feroze Vakil as 'Cupid'.



Left: Gizi as 'Gipsy Girl' and Virat as 'Pack of Cards', both children of Mr. and Mrs. Ram Gidwani. Centre: 'Polly put the Kettle on' (left) and 'Juliet' (right) from 'Romeo and Juliet', daughters of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Moore. Right: Nina Lentin as 'Kashmir' (left) and Meher Wadia (right) as 'Nurse' (3rd Prize).

# Quaint Christmas And New Year Customs

## SOME PAGAN RITES WHICH THE CHURCH LATER ACCEPTED

BY NORA SECCO DE SOUZA

THE season of mistletoe, plum puddings, mincepies and indigestion will soon be on our heels and before we welcome it, let us turn back the calendar and find out how many of our quaint, but nevertheless heart-warming, Yuletide and New Year customs date to a pagan origin.

From time immemorial the Saturnalia and Yuletide revelry had been associated with the winter solstice and it was only in A.D. 351 that Pope Julius I gave it a Christian setting by fixing the date to December 25. Religious observances were thus conjoined with secular merry-making.

Along with the date many pagan customs were taken over beginning with the Christmas pudding, for the sun-worshippers of ancient Greece always presented an offering to the gods of the fruits of the field. Eating, drinking, carol-singing and even the telling of ghost stories formed part of the celebration. Trees played a very important part in ancient mythology, especially the "World Tree" which Tacitus mentions as a monstrous pine, planted in a sacred enclosure and dedicated to the Earth Goddess. Holly and mistletoe were used in all Druidic decorations and the Yule Log came from Scandinavia, where the old Germanic people began their Feast of Yule on December 25. The sacred tree of the Germans was also the pine and the Christmas Tree belongs to the same origin for when it was first brought into England, it created great astonishment and delight.

### Christmas Tree

There is an old legend, however, that tells how Paracelsus, the alchemist, came one day to a fir tree and hearing strange sounds and mutterings within he put his ear to the bark. It was a demon inside begging to be released, and promising in return to show his deliverer the secret method of brewing the elixir of life. Paracelsus pulled out a plug which had been driven into the tree to extract turpentine, and released the demon, who kept his word and gave him the secret. "Now," said Paracelsus, "I cannot understand how a mighty spirit like you could have come through such a small hole. Will you do me the favour of explaining this to me?" "Certainly," said the demon, whose vanity was touched, and changing himself into a spider, he crawled back into the hole. Paracelsus immediately replaced the plug, and made the demon remain a prisoner in the tree! Rather a perverted and different idea from the Christmas tree as we know it, which contains no evil spirit, but is an emblem of love and goodwill.

In Scotland and other Nonconformist countries it is Hogmanay and the New

Year that is ushered in with verve, abandon and convivial toasts that astounds the Sassenach. In the remote rural districts the celebrations were kept for the greater part of January. Hogmanay incidentally, is derived from the Saxon Halig month meaning holy month. Or else through the Norman French from hoc in anno signifying the last chance to a jollification in the current year.

One of the most popular ceremonies of this season is the "First-Footing" performed in many a Scottish hamlet as the New Year breaks. The ideal "first footer" had to be a tall, dark man, to be an authentic herald of prosperity for the happy home he entered on the final stroke of twelve, bringing with him coal and wood for the fire that had been allowed to languish as the Old Year died. Then in absolute silence, he quickly kindled the dying embers into a crackling New Year's blaze. As the flames leaped up, the silence was broken, refreshments distributed and greetings and gifts exchanged.

Our modern equivalent to this custom is the rounding up for Auld Lang Syne, where all I have seen to be exchanged is an unnecessary amount of lip and cheek!

### Exorcising Spirit

In some parts of the country a rite for the expulsion of all evil spirits was performed. The exorcist-in-chief was a ghillie dressed up in the hide of a cow. Pursued by youths lammasing him with strips of hide attached to wooden handles, he made a threefold circuit of every house upon his feat. He and his acolytes then entered each one in turn with a blessing and were rewarded with Yule cake and ale or usquebaugh.

Another very side-whiskered ceremony was the burning of the clavie, chiefly observed in Ross and Cromarty, Sutherland and Moray, but not unknown further south. A barrel was sawn into two, and a round hole drilled through the floor of the lower half so that it could be mounted on a stone pole five foot long. That done, the upper was hewn into faggots and piled into the lower with a generous admixture of tar. The whole contraption was then set light, and the resultant blazing mass or clavie was carried in procession through the village by relays of stalwart "torch-bearers". Pierce tussles occurred whenever a flaming faggot toppled out of the clavie, for all who secured such relics were assured of a prosperous New Year. The procession ended at some spot where a heap of stones known as the durie had been previously piled up. The stone

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## TRUTH ABOUT • Early Miracles—Story SANTA CLAUS • Of A Good Saint

By A. L. Kidson

TO all of us, sooner or later, comes the stark truth concerning that benevolent, bewiskered old gentleman whom we once trusted to do the decent thing by our Christmas stocking. And so vanishes perhaps the first of our illusions, leaving no after-taste of bitterness, but helping rather towards a warmer and fuller appreciation of realities.

Some, in their reverence for truth, believe that the plain, unadorned "facts" should be told to children from the outset. They point to all that other clap-trap of storks and roose-berry bushes so often foisted upon the queuing young mind, and declare that Santa, along with these, should be abolished.

But surely the beautiful legend of Saint Nicholas, with its poetical adjuncts of sleighs, bells, and reindeer, its worthy tradition of well-wishing and well-doing, its ethical and its aesthetic integrity, is a very different case?

The good Saint himself, of course, is dead, and one may see his tomb in the ancient city of Bari, in southern Italy. San Nicola they call him there; as Saint Nicholas he is known and revered among many Christian races; he is the patron saint of Russia. We call him by his North European name—Clause of Klaus, with the Italian "Santa", meaning saint (and the feminine form of the word at that!) still illogically prefixed.

Our title for him, actually, is an American corruption of the name Sankt Klaus which the early colonists from Europe took with them to the States and incorporated in their new life there.

Thus far has the fame of the good Saint Nicholas travelled since he was born in Myra, in Asia Minor, in the third century A.D. History is silent regarding the early life of this remarkable man, but legend and fable supply a wealth of detail.

### Early Miracles

One story says that from earliest infancy he showed his piety by regular fasting—since he refused to be suckled on Wednesdays and Fridays, except only once, and that after sundown! At the death of his parents, during his youth, he inherited some wealth, which he immediately distributed among the poor.

At about the same time he is credited with one of his most renowned deeds—the secret bestowal of dowries upon three daughters of an impoverished citizen who, unable to secure suitable marriages for them, was about to give them up to a life of shame. Thus he became the patron saint of poor maidens.

By similar acts, including some miracles, he became the protector of sailors, travellers, and merchants; while

children, particularly schoolboys, are regarded as being under his special guardianship.

In Russia and in Greece, and in the Catholic countries of Northern Europe, the generosity of Nicholas (or Klaus) is annually appealed to by children on the eve of his festival. This, incidentally, is on December 5th, and not, as many believe, on our own Christmas, when we hold similar festivities.

In olden-day England the Feast of Saint Nicholas was celebrated with some solemnity at the great public schools Eton, Sarum Cathedral, and elsewhere; and in Germany until quite recent times someone dressed up as a bishop would assemble the children of a family or a school and distribute among them gift punts, sweets, and other favours, as a reward for good conduct.

Having dedicated himself at an early age to God, Nicholas, one learns, made a pilgrimage to Palestine, and, in his voyaging, miraculously stilled a storm by his prayers. Another miracle attributed to him is that of restoring to life three youths who had been murdered and salted down by an inn-keeper.

### Made Bishop

On his return from the Holy Land he was made bishop of his own native province, after the chapter had received divine guidance leading them to elect the first man of that name who entered the church on a certain morning. It is said that he displayed throughout his whole term of office every episcopal virtue.

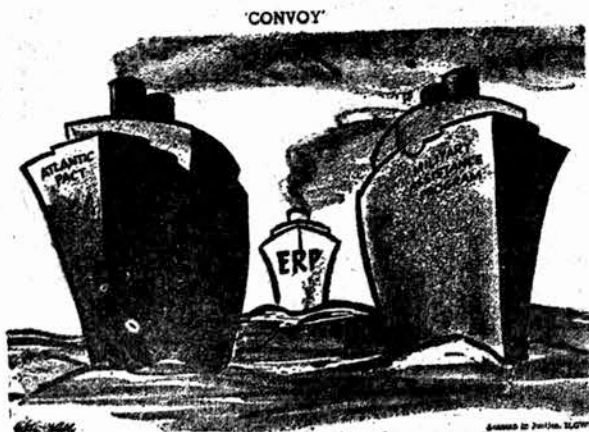
When the province came under the rule of the pagan Roman emperors, Nicholas was cast into prison, but not, like many another of his faith, to die the death of a martyr. He was released by Constantine, the first Christian emperor, and some authorities hold that he afterwards attended the first general council of Christendom—the famous Convention of Nicaea, which Constantine assembled in A.D. 325.

Others dispute this, saying that his attendance there is highly improbable. All agree, however, that Nicholas died from natural causes, and was subsequently buried in his home town of Myra.

### Dispute Over Relics

But the good saint's remains were not destined to stay in that resting-place. In 1087 some sailors from Bari were anchored at the port of Myra when news came of the approach of the Saracens. To save the body of the saint, and carry it for safe keeping—

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# ANIMALS AND BIRDS TALK TO HIM

## Story Of Naturalist With Uncanny Gift

BY EMILE C. SCHURMACHER

CAN you speak to animals and birds?

Mr. J. Alden Loring, an American naturalist, has been doing it for over 55 years.

But Loring is not the originator of this 'language'. The American Indians have been doing it for centuries.

In the following article the author narrates some of the interesting 'talks' with birds and animals.

SEATED on the bank of the Athabasca River, north of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, a small apple-cheeked man with sparse gray hair put the side of his hand to his mouth and emitted a strange sucking noise. As he did so, four chickarees, American red squirrels, that were playing in the branches of a nearby tree descended to investigate.

As the sound was repeated the quartet approached the motionless figure and inquisitively climbed upon him. Then one of them broke into indignant chatter. "A fine thing fooling us like that," he scolded in squirrel language. "This guy isn't a chickaree. Come on, fellows!"

"They scampered to the edge of the woods, paused, and then they really began to give me the devil, all four of them," remarked J. Alden Loring. "The boldest of the four kept telling me to go back home and the other three chorused behind him. 'Yeh and don't come back.'"

### Over Half A Century

Mr. Loring has been talking to animals for more than 55 years and thousands have been talking back to him. They have a language of their own, and if Mr. Loring doesn't quite understand their vocabulary he understands their meaning.

"Most animals have a means of communication not only among one another but to other species as well. The most uttered sounds are those concerned with warnings of danger, the prospect of food and curiosity. There are many others, not forgetting love talk," he explains.

As a common example, Mr. Loring points to the crow, a particularly garrulous bird. Many a farmer or hunter in the field even without a working knowledge of crow language has been able to differentiate between the warning caws and the reassuring calls.

Mr. Loring's familiarity with bird talk has been increasing for more than half a century. As a field naturalist for the U.S. Government, he discovered more than 100 animals new to science. Several of these were named after him, including an African fox, several African birds of the rail family

an American coyote and ground squirrel and small mammals in England, Switzerland, Germany, Sweden and Holland. He spent a year in Africa with Theodore Roosevelt on a scientific expedition for the Smithsonian Institution.

Mr. Loring explains that there are only two forms of living organisms—plant and animal, animals, including fish, birds, insects and even microscopic plankton floating in the water.

### His Method

When he feels inclined to carry on a conversation with an animal, which is rather often, he simply walks into the nearest field or woods, and starts making what he calls his "hisping" sounds.

Recently he has been carrying on a somewhat one-sided discussion with an irate robin on the porch of the Elk's Club on the main street of his home town of Owego, N. Y.

"I had been putting out bread dipped in milk on the Club lawn for the robin and observing him daily from a chair on the porch," says Mr. Loring. "After a while the sparrows learned about the free lunch and beat the robin to it. The robin flew up to the porch rail and perched there in front of my rocker."

He began chirping a complaint. "Those sparrows," he appeared to be saying, "are not gentlemen. They are uncouth bums that flit in under my beak and filch the food that you put out for me. What are you going to do about them?"

"Watch me closely," I hisped back at him. "We'll fix the sparrows."

"I fastened the bread to the porch rail and tied one end of a postcard over it, making a hinge-like arrangement. The robin quickly got the idea. Now when he wants to eat he perches on the porch rail and lifts the postcard. He appears to enjoy chirping sarcastic remarks at the sparrows, too."

### Origin Of It

Strictly speaking, Mr. Loring is not the originator of hisping to animals. The American Indians have been doing it for centuries, attracting wild life by

## INDIAN DANCER FEEDS LONDON PIGEONS



Indian dancer Amla, wife of the famous Uday Shankar, and her six-year-old son Ananda feeding the pigeons in Trafalgar Square.

making a sucking sound with their lips.

As a boy of 10 on his first field trips to the woods near Owego, Mr. Loring tried it and was joined by a chipmunk who outchatted him. Loring soon found that using the unaided lips was tiring, so he devised the side-of-hand-to-mouth technique which he has been using successfully ever since.

By so doing he can make an amazing number of sounds ranging from hearty bass Bronx cheers to high-pitched squeals, which are almost above the range of human hearing, but which can be heard from a considerable distance. With appropriate hisps, the naturalist has actually attracted owls and hawks in flight.

"They are generally out hunting when I hisp them," he explains. "They believe the sound is associated with food and they will alight nearby to investigate. In many instances, they'll be extremely reluctant to admit they've made a mistake. Instead, they'll hang around, hurling insults and challenges at me."

Because of such deceptions, Mr. Loring has been bawled out, upbraided and cursed at by many species of animals, including smart red foxes, which somehow are expected to know better. Most persistent of all, he has found, are members of the weasel family. When Mr. Loring starts talking to a weasel the animal usually gets so interested that he will follow the naturalist.

### Old Wives' Tales

"The deception business works both ways," Mr. Loring points out. "Some animals are past masters at it. Take the ruffed grouse, for example. If you should come upon a mother grouse with her chicks, she will put on one of the most convincing acts in the animal kingdom. She will suddenly start to flop around as if her legs or wings are broken. She will flutter and stagger slowly away from you as if each movement is her last. As she does so her chicks are securing in another direction and reaching safe hiding places."

Once the naturalist encountering such a situation, decided to put on act of his own. As the mother grouse fluttered away in simulated clumsiness, he bent over, picked up an imaginary chick and started to hisp. The mother grouse immediately dropped

all pretence and flew to attack him, at the same time giving him the worst scolding he has ever received from an animal.

"I wouldn't advise anyone else to try that unless he was prepared to protect his face," he cautions.

Many species of animals become savage when protecting their young. Outside of that, their curiosity is apt to make them responsive to the conversational or hisping overtures of a human being with one notable exception, the wolverine. A member of the weasel family, nocturnal in habits and about the size of a bulldog, the wolverine is just about the most greedy vicious and cunning of all animals, and downright anti-social as far as conversation is concerned. A tough subject for a naturalist-psychiatrist, Mr. Loring points out.

"There are many legends and old wives' tales about the wolverine, the mountain lion and almost every animal known to man, which have become commonly accepted misconceptions in this age of enlightenment," he says. "This is the one reason why the field of the naturalist has been steadily broadening."

"Not only do many people today believe the same superstitions about animals that were current when I was a lad, but they accept them in greater numbers and with greater readiness as though the passing of the years has placed the stamp of authenticity upon them."

"One of the most common is the acceptance of the woodchuck or groundhog as a weather prophet. Even the Press makes faithful mention groundhog day, February 2. The weather bureau, with all its scientific equipment, considers it is doing a good job if it accurately predicts the weather three days in advance."

Yet there are millions of people who give equal or greater credence to long-range predictions made by a groundhog seeing its shadow, by muskrats building their walls high, squirrels gathering nuts early, chickens growing feathered 'spots'."

"None of these animal predictions can be believed any more than such misconceptions as ostriches sticking their heads in the sand when frightened or bulls, which are colour-blind."

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### A BIRD IN HAND AND ONE ON HEAD



Prize bird in the hand of a millinary model at the Prize Poultry Show in New York. Model is wearing a Laddie Northridge creation of black cock feathers.

# Crisis In Student World

## SLOGANS AND SHIBBOLETHS WON'T HELP IN FREE INDIA

PROF. D. GURUMURTI

IN modern times, in India, the mind of youth is confused. The transition to a free state has been somewhat sudden. There is a lack of balance in the attitude and conduct of the young.

The virtues which were necessary during the period of the struggle for freedom have ceased to be useful today because freedom has been won.

New qualities have to be developed by our youth; a set of positive virtues have to be inculcated. Discipline, the realisation that no one can be a true leader who does not know how to be a good follower, mental alertness, the unselfish attitude of service, mastery over self are the qualities most urgently needed in Indian life today.

### New Tactics

These reflections have been forced to the front because recently two or three portentous events have taken place in the student world in the Calcutta and Annamalai Universities.

There is a similarity of technique in recent occurrences there which betrays the hidden hand of a planned effort to disorganise student life in Calcutta while a meeting of the syndicate of the University was in progress, a large mass of the students surrounded the meeting place and kept the members virtually prisoners for several hours on the very flimsy pretext that they wanted the commerce classes to be held outside the usual working hours. Subsequently other grounds were added to it such as increase in fees, lack of facilities, etc.

There was nothing whatever preventing the students making these representations in the normal manner through the Principal in the ordinary course. It was obvious that a pretext was selected to practise the novel technique of intimidating the members of the syndicate.

### Mayor 'Imprisoned'

In the Annamalai University, on 24th September last, arrangements had been made for the celebration of the founder's day. The Mayor of Madras had specially come down to deliver the commemorative address. An hour before the time fixed for the function, the Vice-Chancellor and the guest were caught unawares in one of the buildings and were besieged by a large mass of students, who took as their pretext the building of a wall round the girls' hostel as the ground of their dissatisfaction.

The Vice-Chancellor and the guest were imprisoned till the small hours of the morning. Here again several other grounds were added to the grievances as after-thought.

There was no need for this demonstration as their dissatisfaction could have been presented in a more acceptable form. That a new technique was being sedulously spread is obvious.

These two events raise the serious question as to what educationists should do to protect the immature and unformed character of our youth from the insidious invasion by alien techniques of a very undesirable origin. The other aspect of the question is what positive attitudes to life and its problems should be engendered in the minds of youth in the course of their years at college.

Before considering these two issues, a little glance at the part played by the youth of the country during the last thirty years of the freedom-struggle will be useful.

### Students And Politics

In the early tens of this century, it was inconceivable for students to have anything to do with politics or political leaders.

The present writer remembers very vividly the occasion when Gopal Krishna Gokhale visited Madras as one of the members of the Public Services Commission.

Dr. Skinner then Principal of the Madras Christian College, was the only head of an educational institution to invite Mr. Gokhale to visit the college. It was considered a bold thing to have done, likely to merit the displeasure of the Government. But Dr. Skinner boldly asserted that to see such a great Indian and to receive him was itself an important part of Education for the students.

Three years later Dr. Annie Besant

entered Indian politics, conducted the newspaper, 'New India', and organised the well-known Home Rule campaign, when the youth of the country attended the meetings and took eager part in the public upheaval.

The Madras Government under the reactionary Governorship of Lord Pentland issued the notorious G.O. 559 prohibiting students in recognised institutions attending political meetings.

Two educational institutions under the management of Dr. Annie Besant were disaffiliated and refused grants.

### Advent Of Mahatma

Three years later Mahatma Gandhi rose to the leadership of the nation. In his first Non-co-operation Movement he formulated the fourfold boycott—boycott of Government-managed educational institutions, boycott of law courts, boycott of foreign goods and boycott of Government service.

In the early twenties of this century students awoke to a sense of responsibility to take their share in the national fight for liberation from the foreign yoke.

The main reason for Mahatmaji to embark on this fourfold boycott was his diagnosis of the ills from which the nation was suffering. He had discovered that the nation required a strengthening of the moral fibre, especially among the educated intellectual classes, who were unwilling to risk their positions of secure service in the Government departments; the education imparted was itself a slave education inculcating subservience, timidity, avoidance of original thinking and setting a premium on slave mentality.

Hence Gandhiji saw the need to arouse the virtue of bold assertion of the right to think for oneself, courage to break bad law and face the consequences, readiness to sacrifice all for the cause of national liberation.

It was a virtue to defy law under the circumstances. Since then, the students as a class had been encouraged by political leaders, and took a remarkable share in the various campaigns organised by the Congress High Command.

Their culminating achievement in the upheaval following the famous Quit India resolution of Mahatma Gandhi and the sequel of the arrests of national leaders, is well-known.

### New Outlook

Now that freedom has been won there is no call for the students to specialise in the erstwhile virtues of defiance of law, of organised civil disobedience of alien-imposed rule.

The youth of the land have to develop the qualities needed to make a great nation—strenuous self-preparation, capacity for disciplined, co-operative work, sterling character and integrity and mastery over the lower passions.

The educationists today have to work against the momentum generated during twenty years of defying laws. To replace this with the capacity to appreciate the need for obedience to law, to subordinate inclination for cheap demonstration to sustained self-training which involves a new orientation of education.

While it is unquestioned that the enthusiasm of youth is a precious quality, it has to be oriented and yoked to constructive purpose. Educational institutions must be seed-beds of training in character.

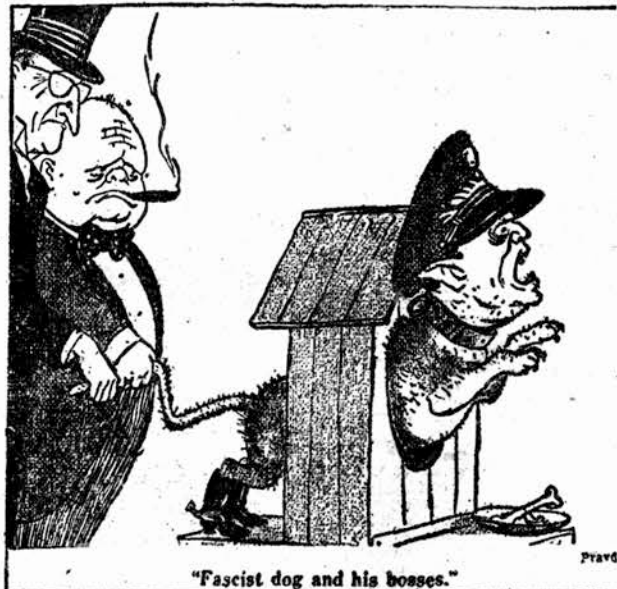
Character consists in the development of right habits through self-control and mastery over inclination and passions of the hour, and in building up attitudes and the capacity for sustained activity in order to realise the high values of life.

The slavery to slogans and the catch-phrases of political ideologies is fatal to independent thinking. Student life, while it must be free to pursue rational inquiry, must be safeguarded from indulging in political action.

By all means let the youthful mind range over the free empyrean of un-mature minds and unformed character of youth.

That in exceptional circumstances, when a whole nation was engaged in a life and death struggle for the fresh air of freedom and political emancipation, it was permissible for the students to join in the supreme national effort, confers no justification what-

## Soviet View Of Tito



"Fascist dog and his bosses."

ever for participation in political action, after the final crisis has been successfully passed and freedom has been achieved.

### Need Of Higher Ideal

To be worthy inheritors of the freedom won with so much sacrifice, the youth have to live laborious days and nights, fashion themselves into true sons of a free land, brave, self-controlled and highly conscious of their responsibilities. Educational institutions have to organise themselves to fulfil this great and urgent task.

The years at college are of vital importance. For it is the time when the minds, emotions and character are in the formative stage and can grow rapidly. That the present system of education is unequal to meet the demand has been obvious to every thinker in the country.

But what has not been so obvious is the direction in which it has to be reshaped. To provide scope for the upbringing of a manly, self-reliant, open-minded, active and resourceful youth the educational system requires radical re-ordering.

The positive attitudes to life can only be engendered in the youth if the educational system is not hide-bound by the lower objectives of preparing the young for Government employment or for a livelihood.

The nobler objective of development of personality, preparation for a life capable of realising the higher values, has to be substituted and worked for.

In the context of the prevailing confusion with regard to the objectives of higher education, the youth of the country are being misled by alien ideologies of a mischievous type like a rudderless boat tossed in the stormy ocean by treacherous undercurrents.

### Rivalries

We can see for instance conflicts of the youthful mind reflected in the rival movements—the All-India Students Congress and the All-India Students Federation.

The latter is influenced and wire-pulled by the Communists, while the former owes allegiance to the Indian National Congress.

The fact of the matter would appear to be, that the majority of the youth are of the passive, negative type.

The positive elements that influence strongly either to the left or the right are the few.

The majority being colourless take on either complexion according to the few strong elements who happen to be in leadership.

From a fairly long and deep contact with the minds of the young one can definitely say that all the achievement, thought, but taking part in direct action is very unsuitable for the needs and failures of the student movements depend on the positive few. Such a state of affairs only proves how little the majority of the youth are developed.

The crisis in the student world in contemporary India has to be boldly faced and tackled with courage and

vision, the courage to jettison the pernicious methods and outlook of yesterday and the vision to plan afresh for ushering in the new youth of a liberated New India of today and tomorrow.

## ANIMALS AND BIRDS TALK TO HIM

(Continued from page 5)

taking particular exception to the colour red."

Not only is it the job of the modern naturalist, to set about correcting all these fallacies, Mr. Loring believes, but there is a great deal of work to be done in discovering and classifying a number of as-yet-unknown animals.

"The various searches for new species, principally the project of museums, zoos and other scientific organizations as well as of individual naturalists, have never been thoroughly integrated," he explains. "I believe many species are yet to be found in Europe. I also believe there are species to be found in England even within a short distance of London."

Yet another project for the modern naturalist and probably the most interesting of all is the solving of many of the mysterious actions of species of known animals. One of the greatest to be solved, Mr. Loring believes, is the mystery of bird migration.

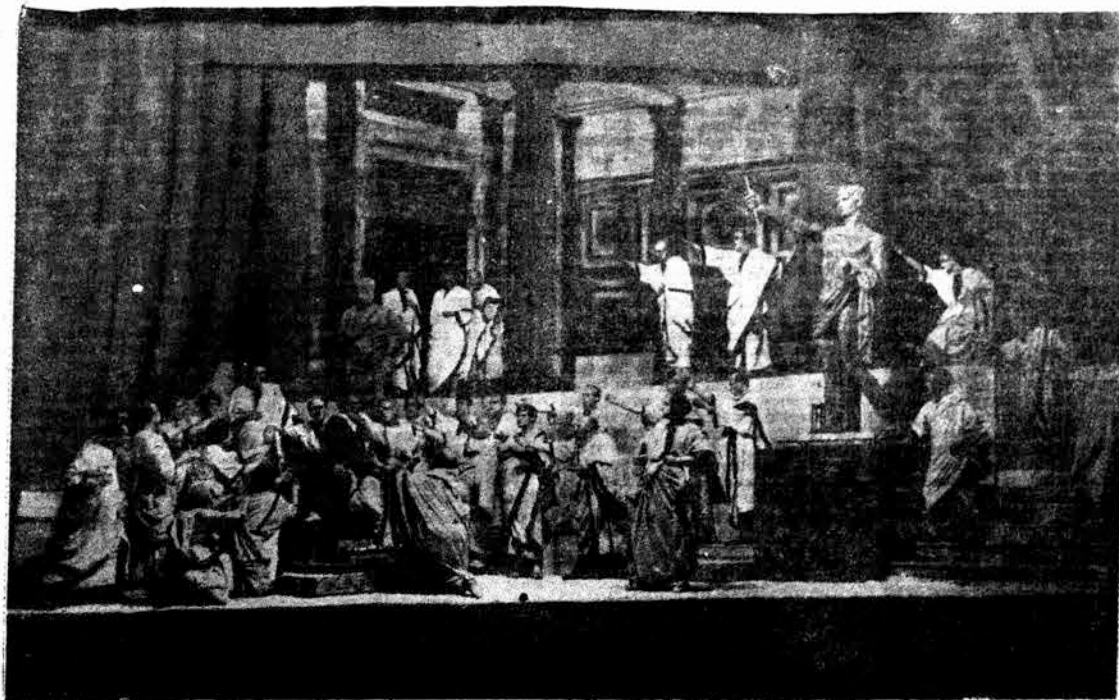
"To the naturalist this remains a two-fold enigma," he says. "A great many people have marvelled at the early phenomenon whereby birds fly, perhaps thousands of miles, back home from the south. But equally puzzling is why they have their northern homes in the first place. Remember, when they start their annual southern migration they do so before they become cold or feel snow and at a time when their food is relatively plentiful. Why do they take the risk of flying a great distance to a locale where food may be scarce?"

The entire mystery of bird migration, in Mr. Loring's opinion, is one of the greatest challenges to the modern naturalist. Another is the advance of hordes of lemmings (an Arctic rodent) in a fixed direction over all obstacles and through bodies of water until they eventually reach the sea, plunge and drown. Still another is exactly in the reverse, the migration of salmon from the sea to fresh water far inland to spawn.

"Major mysteries such as that seem a far cry from hisping with individual animals," Mr. Loring admits. "Still the naturalist can learn about a species by the study of an individual."

The case in which the robin learned to lift the postcard to get at its food, for example, elevated the intelligence of the entire species, a notch in Mr. Loring's estimation. Observations and thousands of little experiences such as this have contributed much to Mr. Loring's enjoyment of being a naturalist.

## 'JULIUS CAESAR' AT MALY THEATRE



The Maly Theatre has invariably paid homage to Shakespeare. Its most distinguished Shakespeare productions after the Great October Socialist Revolution were "Julius Caesar" and "Othello". Photo shows a scene from "Julius Caesar."

## Maker Of Soviet Theatre

BY TAYANA SHCHPK MA-KUPERNIK

EVER since I became aware of my surroundings I remember hearing stories about my great-grandfather, the illustrious actor Mikhail Shchepkin, as well as about the Maly Theatre and its celebrated players. However, one would have to belong to the Shchepkin family to realize how much the names of these actors meant to me, though I was a mere child, as well as the Maly Theatre itself, which was called the "Shchepkin House" and has to the present day retained this appellation.

Later, there was hardly a night when I was not taken to the theatre by one of the grown-ups, such as my aunt, the actress Shchepkina, or her husband, a producer at the theatre. I felt quite at home in my uncle's tiny "producer's office", from which an iron staircase led onto the stage, as well as in the dressing rooms among the array of costumes and perukes, and behind the scenes.

My intimacy with the Maly Theatre was at a time which is legend in its history, and now recalled but by a few. It was the heyday of such of its magnificent talented artists of the last century as Yermolova, Fedotova, Lenski, and Gorev. And I should like to tell what I remember of them.

### Mikhail Shchepkin

First of all I should like to say a few words about Mikhail Shchepkin. I shall not speak of his stage career. That has already been the subject of

many papers and monographs. I should merely like to give a cursory pen portrait of Shchepkin, the man, based on the accounts of his life which were the early cherished within our family. All those who take an interest in the history of the Russian theatre, know that the Maly Theatre has for a long time been a vehicle of progressive ideas, a forum for advanced thoughts.

Tremendous credit for this is due to Shchepkin, the founder of the realistic tendency in the Russian theatre. Precisely Shchepkin brought real life to the stage and moved the public to tears not by showing the suffering of fictitious princesses and dukes, but the sorrows of the plain sailors. The public was moved to laughter not by the antics of the traditional comic servant, but by ridicule of the swindling town governor and the dull-witted officials in Gogol's "Inspector-General".

Shchepkin freed Russian historicism from the fetters of false classicism, just as Pushkin in his time freed Russian literature from the affected pathos of the solemn ode. But, as I have already said, the services rendered by Shchepkin to the Russian theatre are generally known.

It was in an atmosphere of patriarchal staidness and serious work that

Shchepkin's life proceeded. However, this celebrated actor for a long time remained a serf.

In our time it is difficult to conceive of so great an artist as he was, enjoying the friendship and esteem of Russia's best men such as Pushkin, Gogol and Belinsky, in a position whereby he could be sold along with his family like a chattel.

Only in his thirties was liberty granted to Shchepkin. He was then the pride of the Maly Theatre, the conscience of Russia's actors. The public decided to make him a gift of his freedom donation at a "benefit show" paying for his ransom. However, the remaining members of his family Shchepkin was able to ransom only gradually.

### Veritable Haven

The sufferings they live through make some people bitter, others they teach to respond warmly to the misfortunes of their fellow creatures. It was to the latter that Shchepkin belonged. His kindheartedness and thoughtfulness were indeed remarkable. Shchepkin's modest residence on the outskirts of Moscow was a home not only to his own family but to numerous strangers as well. It had an "old folks" upstairs and a "children's"

upstairs. At that time there were no homes for retired actors and many elderly actors no longer on the stage were saved from poverty and a lonely old age by Shchepkin. Nor was the "children's upstairs" ever lacking in inmates apart from his own children and later his grandchildren. Shchepkin had under his care the seven children of his friend Barsov, as well as the children of Yakushkin, an exiled "Decembrist". There were never any less than twenty persons to sit down at the family table so that Shchepkin had to work hard to keep "his family". It may be added that his home was a haven where gathered all the finest and most progressive minds of the day.

However engaged Shchepkin might have been he always found time to devote to his family as well as to his intimates' families. Relatives and strangers alike solicited his advice and support. The Ukrainian writer Maximovich had thus defined him: "He is a most marvellously sweet person who even in his declining years shines and glows with warmth like the morning sun."

Vivacity and animation reigned in the Shchepkin home, with all working, playing music and making merry. The soul of all the activity was a man, not tall—the great, simple-hearted and unassuming Shchepkin, his face radiating mental energy and friendliness, his grey eyes not losing their sparkle and penetrating gaze even in old age.

Shchepkin had his own routine. He

(Continued on page 27)

## 'A PEOPLE'S ARTISTE'



Y. Turchaninova, People's Artist of the USSR, in the role of the landowner Murzavetskaya and V. Vladislavsky, Honoured Artist of the RSFSR, in the role of Chugunov, an ex-official of the court in the play "The Wolves and the Sheep".



With great warmth the Soviet poet Victor Gusev has drawn in his comedy "Glory" characters of simple Soviet folk who are true patriots of their Soviet Homeland. In this play the Maly Theatre's veteran actors Evdokia Turchaninova and Nikolai Yokovlev, People's Artists of the USSR, give a charming portrayal of the elderly Russian mother Motylkova and the actor Medvedev.

## Short Story

By Gerhard

## IN THE SIGNAL-BOX

Ting-ting, ting.  
"That settles the 10-35. Now let me see;...the next one is due at ten to twelve. That gives me an hour and a quarter to relax. Now where is 'The Black Shadow'; must know if Craig has managed to wriggle loose. Where is that book. Confound it! I must have left the thing at home. Bah! I could kick myself for it—it's monotonous enough with a book in this hole. It ought to be 12 years over here. This wasn't my ambition. No Bill, it wasn't your idea of a profession. You wanted to be an officer in the army, ordering your men about, setting an example in discipline, marching proudly at their head leading them into battle—to victory. And then...home again, a hero now, a warm welcome, a V.C., a handshake with the C-in-C...your name in the headlines...yes...that's what you wanted, ever since you began drilling your lead-soldiers. You outgrew them; they were only toys; you wanted men, real men, men of flesh and blood, men who could respond to the fire you aroused in them, who did not stand there, waiting to be pushed into their next position...."

"You wrote to the local C.O. as soon as you finished school. Oh yes, you upset the ink in your eagerness.... and had to write for a new form. With what care you filled 'that' one out. You posted it and waited....and waited.... would a reply never come? Five days and nothing for you? The afternoon you wanted to write again, the brown envelope arrived...."

"How your heart beat when you opened the door for the interview. When you came out, you felt in the army already. Then followed the medical inspection. Oh, why were doctors ever born! Two inches too short! You could make that up you thought, (you never did), but that was not all they found out. They found that you were shortsighted, and had a weak chest, and flat feet. There was no point arguing. 'You', the smart future-colonel, declared unfit even for the ranks....you won't forget that day, no, you never will! You won't forget how you dragged your leaden feet home, you will never forget your father's booming laugh, for the pitying look of your sister that hurt your pride, nor those hateful words of consolation from your mother....the star that had guided you twinkled no more....your aim in life was gone. You looked at a dull world through rigid frame that characterises a soldier. You looked at a dull world through hollow eyes. There were odd jobs for the neighbours, that helped you to spend each weary day, and when there was nothing to do, you leaned against the pillar-box at the corner, digging your hands deeper into your sagging pockets...."

"Then your father died. You had to support the family. It was 'Baker's Boy' or 'Signalman'. You chose 'Signalman'."

"The first few weeks were fairly interesting, because everything was new. The dreadful monotony set in soon enough, however."

"You were in a cabin, alone, seven miles from the nearest station, at one of the dumbest bends on the line, where no train ever stopped....nothing unusual ever happened. Each day for twelve years, you had operated these same twelve levers and twenty-three switches. The four sets of rails gleamed defiantly at you in the sunlight. Scoured by every passing wheel, their dazzle was blinding when you looked down the line. At night the light stared at you in their three colours. When they changed, they seemed to wink at each other, 'poor Bill, he-he-he, our general, he regiments 'us'—couldn't get men, he-he-he.... Sometimes the thick fogs hid it all, but was it a relief? That was worse than all this. You felt that they had blinded you and that the levers in the cabin were only left in your imagination.... you could not even see the ground from the window....the hazy walls of the cabin could no longer be real...."

"The passing trains only added to the monotony. Every day for twelve years, the express thundered past with its screeching whistle as it rounded the bend, only to lighten the silence when its roar died away. And there was the regular puffing of engines drawing creaking and groaning goods-wagons over the rails at night, with an unending monotonous clank-clank-clank-clank.... The other signalmen were grumpy old chaps who just growled a 'Good evening' when they trundled in with their coffee pots. And then there was that

infernal bell, that said either 'Ting-ting', or 'Ting-ting, ting'. And each of those things had to be answered. Hell could not be worse.

"John Brown stepped out of the car, cool as usual, and revolver in hand, he marched a glowering, handcuffed man up the steps to police headquarters, past the astonished faces of the cops. John Brown had ended the career of yet another murderer. Grand chap that Brown, must keep an eye open for the next thriller about him. Wish I could catch a crook like that. But no, Bill! Such things are barred to you, they are only for others.... you'd better not forget to give the 9-37 the 'through-signal'. There, that's done it.... No, Bill, these thrills are only for other people. You'll remain what you are.... an inconspicuous ant in the ant hill, a puny little

man working his levers and switches, lost to the world in the vast railway organisation, just a William Henderson to the company, who gets his monthly pay automatically as long as he works, known only on paper to a few clerks for a few minutes every month, called 'sullen Bill' by his few unimportant friends. Yes, they are right, I 'am' sullen....but not without cause. Other chaps get a kick out of their work. I could kick myself for being here. I work hard for twelve years on the dumbest job on earth, and in return, sink all the deeper into oblivion. It's a thankless world! Why couldn't I get an important and exciting job? I am good enough for something better. I've courage, talent, ability—what else is required? I'd deserve a medal as much as any one else if I were given a chance. Yes, but they don't give you a chance, Bill. They say you are too short and too weak. That's what they think! It's

the tall fellows who get their heads shot off first in the field. Why, some of our most decorated generals are short. How did they get into the army? Didn't they show the world that short men are as good as tall ones? It isn't your fault that you are short, but they make you suffer for it, as if it were. Banned to a lonely cabin for twelve years! Sentenced to pull levers for the rest of your life! That is the way they punish you for being short! Oh, Bill! You miserable wretch! They have made a machine out of you in these years. Initiative, discretion, creative power—all these have been snubbed. You must follow the time-tables and the signals from other cabins exactly. You can never think for yourself. There must be no deviation from the daily routine. You are never allowed to experiment. Trial and error are forbidden in this one job on earth, for one little error might end in a collision....yes.... one slip, and a hundred persons may be killed....one little slip....one wrong lever pulled....all those lives lie in your hands.... you dare not make a mistake."

"STILL AT LARGE"



## Story Of X'Mas Cards

(Continued from page 2)

Street, known as the father of the card trade, and Messrs Goodall began printing Christmas cards, and a manufacturer named King got the idea of frosting and embossing them. But they were still a novelty and sent out by well-to-do Londoners and a few country gentlemen.

Here was Tuck's chance. He had a flair for advertising, so he decided to hold a competition for Christmas card designs and rented the Dudley Galleries in Piccadilly for the purpose of exhibiting them. Nothing like this had been done before, and there were scores of entries.

As the firm of Tuck grew, some of the best known artists in Britain were asked regularly to design Christmas cards, and shortly before his death Tennyson was offered £1,000 to write twelve lines to be printed on a Christmas card! He refused, not because he felt that the task was beneath him, for he wrote: "You cannot imagine with what regret I have forfeited this opportunity of world fame; for, beyond a doubt these verses would have found their way into many far corners of the earth where I cannot flatter myself that even my name is known."

On another occasion £500 was offered for the best card design of the year. Sir John Millais, President of the Royal Academy, being the final judge.

Christmas cards not only carry pleasant greetings; they have been the means through which men have expressed almost incredible ingenuity for cards lend themselves to an endless variety of forms. One, the most elaborate ever designed revealed when open a fully rigged ship at sea. The designer was a Berliner who had always wanted to own his own boat, but could not afford one. Happily, the proceeds of the sale of his card were so big that he was able to indulge in his heart's desire and buy a yacht, and thus make another Christmas dream come true.

Another CARD, and a most expensive one, was that sent by Joe Cook, an American comedian, to all his

friends and acquaintances. He brought the EVANSVILLE COURIER, in Indiana, and printed a special edition containing only greetings, which he posted!

Though it is a Christian festival, people of every religion send and receive cards with equal pleasure. You may send out a hundred cards and feel that you've done your bit, but your expenditure is infinitesimal beside that of the Nizam of Hyderabad. This Moslem ruler some years ago wrote an ODE TO THE NATIVITY, had it printed in the form of a Christmas greetings and sent it to 50,000 friends and co-believers throughout India. A special copy was printed on gold leaf, bound in crimson silk and sent to the Pope.

A difference in dogma is no bar, apparently, to one's enjoyment in sending cards, for before the war one Moslem prince placed an order with a British firm for 1,000 superbly produced cards, each costing a guinea, the only stipulation being that instead of the customary greeting, the words, "All Praise To Allah The Most High," should be printed. But as Moslems believe in one God and as they number Abraham, Isaac and Moses among their prophets, this was only their interpretation of a common sentiment.

When the history of Christmas cards is written there will be many surprising stories to relate. One such tale deals with a young man who left his aunt's house in anger. The old lady then made a will leaving her money to a home for cats. Years later she received an anonymous card which she was so certain that her nephew had sent that she altered her will in his favour. Soon after she died, leaving £40,000.

The most amazing collection of Christmas cards in the world, and one that will in all probability never be equalled, belonged to Jonathan King. It included 163,000 specimens, some as big as the pictures we hang on our walls. He offered this unique collection to the British Museum, but the authorities were compelled to refuse, because the cards were contained in 200 huge volumes, the total weight of which was eight tons!

"They all depend on you. As a matter of fact no trains could run if you were not there. The whole railway hinges around you. You have them in your hands! They who made your life a misery are in your power! You could show them! Just pull this lever here, and the 10-55 up would collide with the 10-35 down which is late today. This lever here is one over which the interlocking has no control, (the points are too far apart—nobody would ever dream of a collision that way)...yes in ten minutes they would meet on the same rail, at the bend, right in front of your eyes here. A three hundred tons of express train, filled with those mocking creatures, roaring forward at sixty miles per hour would meet five hundred tons of mail train coming along unsuspectingly around the bend at forty miles per hour, with its own doomed cargo of humans. There would be a deafening crash, bogies would telescope, wood shall splinter, bodies will be crushed, yes c-r-u-s-h-e-d, and the rails would be stained red to make hundreds of maimed miserable survivors think of you for the rest of their lives. Just pull this one lever and you will have avenged all they have done to you. One effort with your arm....and their doom is sealed...."

"Bill, calm down, your thoughts are running away with you, calm down man, calm down."

"What? My thoughts running away with me? Never! Ah! But revenge is sweet, as they will presently learn."

"Bill, lay off that lever. Sit down. Stop pacing about. You are going mad."

"What? Me going mad? Ha, ha. That's a funny one. I AM mad! Raving mad! They make me mad! There, that settles them....two minutes to go....and then, I, William Henderson, will have shown the world who I am. There is the rumble already....HA, HA, HA....HO, HO, HO...."

"Bill, you forget the mangled bodies, the torn off limbs, the heap of steel and wood and flesh, the horrible screams, the haunting moans, the innocent children. Undo the evil. Undo it!"

"Too late! The trains are already on one rail, no points in between. Oh, what have I done what have I done? I see it all. I see myself in court. I can't face them....my flag, my red flag where is it? Useless! Trains won't stop....release me from this torture. I must jump, can't jump through those closed windows....I'll rush down....my flag, here it is....perhaps I can save them yet....let my evil destroy the devil that planned it....it shall destroy me it shall....here comes the mail....five steps to the rails....oh God! Release me release...."

The driver of the mail train happened to be looking out. He saw a haggard figure rush towards his engine along the rails. He applied his brakes....but, of course too late, and William Henderson, signalman, was no more, when the wheels screeched to a halt at last. Bill had saved the trains. He had stopped the mail. He had undone his work. That is what we think—but the express roared on towards the bend—unconscious of a mail-train hidden by the trees. The inevitable must happen.

## SPORTS JOTTINGS

### From Here And There

By. J. C. MAITRA



Thrills galore in second Test—Our batsmen's weakness—Late declaration—Modi in new role—Merchant as old self—Hopes for next Test—Disgraceful behaviour by spectators—Score-cards' Wizardry.

The second unofficial Test match between the Commonwealth cricket team and India ended in a tame draw. But the contest as a whole was not as colourless or insipid as the indefinite result would suggest. It was thrilling and exciting from the first day to the last. And the packed stands followed the fortunes of the battle with unbounded enthusiasm or with bated breath as the occasions demanded.

At the end of the first day, the supporters of the home team came out of the Brabourne Stadium with an expression of utmost satisfaction. The obvious cause for it was the cheap dismissal of seven of the visiting stalwarts for an unsubstantial total of 245 runs. Few had expected then that the tourists' aggregate would step far over the three-hundred mark. That was a fine achievement for India's bowlers—particularly Rusi Modi and Dattu Phadkar—and the fieldsmen. So most people were looking forward to a magnificent victory for India.

**TABLES TURNED**  
The second day's play changed the complexion of the game considerably in favour of the tourists, thanks to the stout-hearted batting of Fred Freer and Jack Pettiford. Emulating the excellent examples of Norman Oldfield and Frank Worrell, they scored over a century and seven-tens respectively.

However, the total of 448 was by no means an unapproachable figure for the strong batting side of India. It was hoped in all quarters that the home team would amass as respectable a total if not bigger and emerge out of the play with honours even. Of course there was a certain amount of disappointment among the fans that the initial advantage could not be consolidated for an outright victory.

But who could have dreamt that India would have to face a serious debacle as in the first Test and fight for their National prestige with their backs to the wall? That is exactly what happened. Despite the fact that Vijay Merchant and Rusi Modi gave a fair start to the home team's late batsmen—with the solitary exception of Dattu Phadkar who carried his bat for a grand 78—failed miserably and the whole side was out for a paltry tally of 289.

**TOO HASTY**  
To say that the visitors' bowling was deadly or unplayable would be placing too high a premium which it did not deserve. Nor could the appalling massacre be attributed to an exceptional variety of fielding. It must be put down to rank bad batting. Had they copied the patience and resourcefulness of Freer and Pettiford, or our own Phadkar, they could have easily saved the follow-on. More than that, they could have compiled as good a figure as their opponents did. But they were all too hasty to score and thus threw away their valuable wickets in a hurry. I cannot say that they were cowed down by the devastating attack of their opponents or outwitted by their guile and wizardry.

Unless and until our batsmen learn to subordinate their natural impetuosity and bat with care and watchfulness, as they did so splendidly in the second innings, India will never be able to win a Test match. Their failures cannot be attributed to weakness, inefficiency or want of grit. If it were so, they would have succumbed in their second venture as tamely as they did in their initial outing.

But we have always seen that they fight better when they are in a tight corner. That shows courage and 'guts' in a high degree. It only needs

mental training to regulate one's efforts. It is really a wonder that with all their experience at home and abroad, our stalwarts give such a poor exhibition of their talents and attainments so after. Even professional payers like Vijay Hazare and Vinoo Mankad seem to suffer from this mental make-up!

#### PRAISEWORTHY EFFORTS BY MERCHANT

Highly praiseworthy it was no doubt that, barring Mantri, all our batsmen gave an exhilarating display of their merits in the second innings. The lion's share for this credit goes to Vijay Merchant, India's skipper, and Rusi Modi, who set the example to their successors. Had they failed, I do not know what would have happened. Maybe they would have repeated their Delhi performance. However that was not to be. Both of them helped to collar the bowling by their cautious methods and paved the way for their followers to make the most of it.

It is a matter of great pity that the coveted three-figures eluded Merchant twice, especially in the second innings when he was short of it only by 6 runs. However his contributions cannot be measured in terms of centuries. They were much more valuable than their actual figures. What an asset he is as an opening bat was fully demonstrated on both the occasions.

#### LATE DECLARATION

The fourth day saw India fighting a heroic battle after an ignominious surrender on the third day. When stumps were drawn, the home team was nearly out of the woods, having lost only 4 wickets for 255 runs. Still their position was by no means safe. Fortunately Hemu Adhikari and "Polly" Umrigar rose to the occasion and pulled the match out of the fire on the last day. Adhikari was as unlucky as his Captain in missing the century mark by the narrow margin of seven runs.

Many people had expected that Merchant would apply closure at lunch when India's score stood at 371 for 5 wickets which gave them a lead of 212 runs. It would have been an extremely difficult task for the tourists to hit up this number within the remaining 180 minutes of play. A sporting gesture all the same. Had they succeeded in reaching it, it would have been a mighty achievement for them. But Vijay Merchant does not believe in taking such risks, even though they may offer him an opportunity of winning the engagement outright.

#### INEXCUSABLE

Of course we cannot blame Merchant for not declaring at this stage. For one thing, India was in arrears in the Test series owing to their defeat at Delhi. Secondly, he could not depend on his bowlers and fielders to dismiss the visitors within such a short time, more so, when the wicket was playing fairly well. It would have been a catastrophe of the first magnitude, if he had thrown away the match after it was securely held in his grip.

But the postponement of his declaration after Adhikari was out was inexcusable. Was it because he wanted to give a further trial to Bhausaheb Nimbalkar and Vinoo Mankad that he delayed the closure by nearly half an hour? It was simply meaningless.

It was an impossible proposition for the visitors to knock up 240 runs in about 135 minutes. It is equally true that it was almost impossible to dismiss them within that period. Put a declaration at that stage would have been a fine sporting gesture on the part of our Captain. A team which was fielding strenuously for three days would have highly appreciated it. At the same time it would have given our men the much-needed practice in fielding. But Merchant preferred to adopt the safety first tactics when the need for it was long past.

#### HONOURS GO TO TOURISTS

So there was little life or interest left in the engagement after the declaration was finally made at 3.45 p.m. Still the tourists tried to make it as attractive as possible—William Alley in particular giving a delightful exhibition of forceful hitting, notching 51 runs in the bargain. By the end of the day 3 wickets were down for 110

runs. Thus the match ended in a draw—in favour of the visitors.

The honours of the Test series is, therefore, in the hands of the Commonwealth. They have proved superior to India in every department of the game. The highest total of 308 for 8, recorded at Delhi, stands in their favour. Four centuries—two by Norman Oldfield and one each by Jock Livingston and Fred Freer—are credited to their names, as against two hit up by Dattu Phadkar and Vijay Hazare for India. Besides, they were able to dismiss India thrice for negligible aggregates, whereas India succeeded only once in capturing all their wickets.

#### RANGACHARI RIDICULED

Therefore the Commonwealth team's superiority still stands unquestioned. At Delhi, India had an excuse that they could not field their strongest combination owing to injuries sustained previously. And even those who took part could not contribute their full quota for the same reason as in the case of the Merchant brothers.

Nothing however can be put forward in defence of the deplorable exhibition put up by most of our men in Bombay. Some people had expected great things from C. R. Rangachari. In fact I was severely taken to task by a reader from Madras for belittling his fielding abilities. He was good enough to accuse me of provincialism! The South Indian "speed-Merchant" could not however justify his inclusion in any way.

#### RUSI MODI'S NEW ROLE

On the other hand, it was a pleasant revelation to see Rusi Modi in the role of an opening bowler—and a very effective one at that. His in-swingers seemed to baffle the Commonwealth batsmen in a large measure. If he keeps it up, he will be as great an asset as a bowler as he is as a batsman. The intrinsic value of his contributions as a batsman—58 and 51—is much greater than the size of the figures as they were bound to act as a tonic to all his colleagues. We may depend upon him to improve upon his scores in the remaining Tests.

Similarly Dattu Phadkar acquitted himself most creditably both with the ball and the bat. With the leather he did his bit fairly well. But with the bat he struggled heroically to avert the follow-on. Had he been given a little more support either by C. S. Nayudu or Rangachari, he would certainly have saved the disaster. His unbeaten 78 stands out as a rare example of courageous stand. He was never cowed down by the flourish of the opposing bowlers. I wish all our batsmen could follow him.

#### VINOO MANKAD'S DISTINCTION

Our slow bowlers, C. S. Nayudu and Vinoo Mankad, did not meet with the success they deserved. But they were treated with considerable respect by all the visiting batsmen. Besides their fielding left nothing to be desired. Vinoo will be particularly remembered in connection with this match as he was the only batsman to hit up a glorious sixer which he did on the last day.

Hemu Adhikari wielded his willow with tremendous effect. Every body sympathised with him when he missed the century mark so narrowly. He is steadily rising to the forefront of our batting brigade. One day he may turn out to be the steel-anchor of that paternity—just as a fielder he sets the example to all his mates.

Another player who has risen to prominence is "Polly" Umrigar. He has proved to be an all-rounder of great merit. With more experience he is sure to make his mark in international cricket.

#### MERCHANT AS OLD SELF

Little need be said of Vijay Merchant, except that he is his old self again. We hope to see him even in brighter colours than before and carrying our side to victory in the Tests. He will have two new players to assist him in Calcutta and they are our old friends, Syed Mushtaq Ali of Indore, and Nirmal Chowdhury of Calcutta. As Mantri has failed as an opening bat, Mushtaq is the obvious choice in that position. I only hope that his age and experience has tended to curb his impetuosity which impels him to bat or run in a rash manner.

Chowdhury comes in the place of Rangachari. As he is very successful on the Calcutta turf, he may be more useful than the Madras trundler has been. Bhausaheb Nimbalkar need not be sorry for his exclusion. He is bound to be called upon to don India's cap again if he takes more care to improve his all-round play.

I hope wicket-keeping Mantri will be more successful in the third Test than he has been so far.

We should not be unnerved or

(Continued on page 24)



White Ants Eat  
Rs. 11,000!

CHIRALA, Nov. 11.

It is learnt that currency notes of the value of Rs. 11,000, belonging to a local provisions merchant, have been completely damaged by white ants.

It is stated that the merchant sold his lands, and placed the proceeds, together with some other cash, all in hundred-rupee currency notes, in a wooden box, and left it "securely" in a place high up in the room.

After the recent *Bombay Chronicle* reported that all the notes were damaged beyond recognition.

#### SHOPKEEPERS' HOUSEHOLDERS

This loss might have been  
**YOURS**

Safeguard your hard-earned money and other valuable truly and completely by locking them inside these easy-to-use, everlasting deposit-boxes, before you come to grief. Remember wooden containers are open to destruction by fire, too, and they are easily broken open or carried away by thieves.

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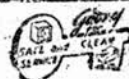
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#### THE FAMOUS ASTROLOGER



Recipient of many Gold Medals and Certificates from Maharajas, Judges and notables. Annual Life reading monthly details Rs. 5 and 3 questions Rs. 2. Horoscopes writing time required. Pandit Kaliyuga M. SRINIVASACHARIAR THAPO NIDHI, Thyagarayanagar, Madras 17.

# MALAYA JUNGLE SQUADS FIGHT BANDITS



Throughout Malaya today there are 145 highly trained jungle squads of police ready for action at any time, day and night, against the Communist-led alien-born Chinese bandits and other subversive elements. More jungle squads are being trained.



Typical of Malaya's jungle squads, fighting Communist terrorists, is this one stationed at Kuala Lumpur, capital of the Federation of Malaya. The squad which includes Malays and Indians, drawn from the regular police and assisted by Chinese detectives, consists of six combat sections, each of 10 men operating under specially chosen Sergeants. All section leaders are English-speaking, able to read maps and work by compass, and possess a knowledge of First Aid.

The jungle squad is highly mobile, using semi-armoured cars, jeeps and bicycles. They are equipped with every type of modern automatic weapon, hand-grenade, riot gun and tear gas.

Their duties cover the whole scope of jungle operation, from planned raids, surprise swoops, deep jungle penetration sometimes for two or three weeks at a time, to ordinary routine patrols. When on patrol, the various sections keep in touch with one another by "walkie-talkie" wireless.

Since the "Emergency" began in June last year, the Kuala Lumpur jungle squad has taken part in more than 100 patrols a month. These range from ordinary patrols to major combined operations with the military forces in which the whole unit is engaged. The average period of duty for each man during the past year has been 12 hours a day, of which an average time of 10 hours a day was spent on operation. There is not a single area in the whole State of Selangor which the Kuala Lumpur jungle squad has not visited. This squad is responsible for the destruction of many bandit camps, the screening of hundreds of suspects, and has been actively engaged at least 50 times in battle contact with the bandits.

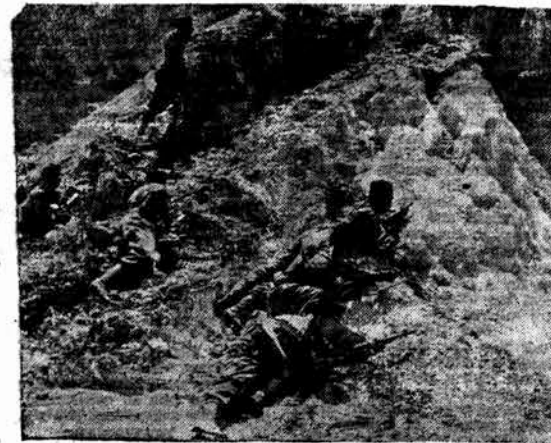
The policy of the police is to establish jungle squads at as many stations throughout Malaya as possible so that there are squads in every area who possess local knowledge of the country and are available for instant action.



A section of the Kuala Lumpur Jungle Squad debussing under fire in squatter area—Selangor.



A Jungle Squad Section responding to an alarm call.



A Kuala Lumpur Jungle Squad ready for action in an abandoned tin mine.



A Bren-gun team of the Kuala Lumpur Jungle Squad directing covering fire for advancing section during an operation.



Inspector Tun Hamsah briefing Section Leaders with maps prior to a night operation.

## VILLAGE WATER SUPPLY WORKS

### Local Boards To Maintain

BOMBAY, Saturday. All village water supply works, constructed at Government cost and situated within the area of a District Local Board, will hereafter vest in the Board concerned and they will be repaired and maintained by the Board from its own funds. The Government will, however, bear, subject to funds being available, the cost of special repairs, such as, repairs to, or renewal of, water drawing arrangements, rebuilding of damaged masonry of parapets, steining and desilting.

The works of an original nature in respect of the village water supply, such as converting step wells into draw wells, deepening of wells and tanks and constructing parapets, plumbings, gutters, soak-pits, cattle troughs, water drawing arrangements, etc., will, as hitherto, be carried out by the Government, subject to funds being available.

## REGISTRATION OF D.P.s. AS CITIZENS OF INDIA

BOMBAY, Saturday. In connection with the registration of displaced persons as citizens of India, it is brought to the notice of all concerned that only those displaced persons who migrated to India from Pakistan on or after July 19, 1948 and those who had migrated from India to Pakistan at any time after March 1, 1947 but had returned to India any time after August 15, 1947 under a permit for re-settlement or permanent return, have to apply for registration. It is not necessary for the displaced persons who migrated to India from Pakistan before July 19, 1948 to apply for registration as citizens of India. Article 6 (b) (i) of the Constitution of India gives them the rights of citizenship.

## Amendment To Medical Practitioners' Rule

BOMBAY, Saturday. The last date for receipt of objections and suggestions in respect of the draft amendment to the Bombay Medical Practitioners' Rule, 1939, has been extended up to January 15, 1950. The draft was published in Part IV of the Bombay Government Gazette, November 3, 1949.

## Bombay Sarvodaya Kala Mandir To Tour C. P.

BOMBAY, Saturday. The cultural squad of the Sarvodaya Kala Mandir which had recently given a series of programmes in the city has been invited by the Government of C.P. to give a series of programmes in Nagpur and Muzaffar. This squad will be leaving Bombay on Monday, the 26th and will give programmes at the various places.

## Concession To Machine Processors

BOMBAY, Saturday. The permission recently given by the Provincial Textile Controller to processors holding valid dealer's or processor's licences to purchase cloth from textile mills from "free sale" quota applies to machine processors only.

## Dispute For Adjudication

BOMBAY, Saturday. The industrial dispute between the Surat Rander Bus Company, Surat, and its workers has been referred for adjudication to the Industrial Tribunal of Mr. P. D. Vyas.

## Singapore Bandits Fire At Police Station

SINGAPORE, Dec. 24 (PTI-Reuters). Terrorists fired at the police station at Ampang, four miles from Kuala Lumpur, last night. Others entered the village and shot two Chinese.

A dusk-to-dawn curfew has been imposed in certain areas of Kuala Lumpur.

# END EXPLOITATION IN EVERY FORM

## Rajen Babu's Plea For Constructive Peace

SEWAGRAM (Wardha), December 24. (PTI-Reuters)

A message of Mahatma Gandhi—"The Modern Apostle of Peace"—was tonight broadcast to the world by Dr. Rajendra Prasad and other delegates of the World Pacifist Conference in different languages from the sacred hut which Mahatma Gandhi was occupying while in Sewagram.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad's broadcast in English and Hindi was relayed by all Indian Radio stations. The same message was also broadcast in Persian, Arabic, French, German, Burmese and Chinese languages and was transmitted by the External Services of the All-India Radio to other broadcasting systems of the world.

In his broadcast, which was made on the eve of the birth of the "Prince of Peace" and just before the resumption of the session of the World Pacifist Conference to chalk out a peace programme, Dr. Rajendra Prasad said that "the appeal and prayer of the Conference to the common man and woman of the world is to so shape and mould his or her own individual life as to make it an abode of peace."

TO THE NATIONS  
"Its appeal to the nations is to utilise the material and moral resources which each possesses for constructive purposes, rather than for preparing men and women to be instruments of destruction and furnishing them with the means and the weapons to make that destruction more effective and all-embracing."

Dr. Rajendra Prasad said that the essentials of peace in the world were the ending of exploitation in every form and everywhere and the adoption by the individual of "simplicity for himself and active goodwill towards others."

He added that the resources of mankind could be diverted to constructive work "if only every section of humanity can be persuaded to realise that even its own comfort and happiness will increase if it knows how to seek it in renunciation rather than in acquisition—if it can turn hatred into love, fear into confidence, right into duty and exploitation into service."

Dr. Rajendra Prasad said, "about one hundred pacifists of the world have been meeting in India and discussing in an earnest manner the great problem of establishing peace in the world. They send their greetings and good wishes to the peoples everywhere. Those who have met come from 34 countries, but they do not claim to represent their states or governments which have their own way of looking at things and solving their problems."

The members of the Conference are ordinary men and women following different vocations in life but anxious for peace—peace which is not merely absence of war but peace positive which is goodwill in action—peace for which they have worked and suffered in their own humble way. Their appeal is to the common men and women of the world to search for the causes of war and to remove them.

### LASTING PEACE

These causes are rooted in desires and ambitions of individuals and nations: these desires and ambitions conflict with similar desires and ambitions of others. Lasting and fruitful peace can be assured if individuals constituting nations and nations curb and keep them within limits. In modern times achievements of man in the conquest of nature have served only to whet that ambition and pour oil in its flames. The world has seen two devastating wars within a generation, each fought with the object of ending wars but succeeding only in leaving its legacy and another war in the making.

Dr. Prasad continued, "Mahatma Gandhi saw the futility of trying to wash, as the Indian saying is, mud with mud, to end war by war, by more deadly armaments and better regimentation of the peoples."

He tried to tackle it at its root by making the individual a fit instrument of peace—simplifying his life, reducing his individual needs, spreading and securing confidence and love all round, fearless himself giving cause to none to fear him. For creating the atmosphere that will be helpful and

beneficial in producing that kind of individual, our lives have to be remodelled.

Life is an integrated whole and man cannot achieve peace while living a life which breeds war. Environment undoubtedly influences man, but man can alter and change his environments—can, in fact, create them, if he is determined and follows the straight and difficult path which is no other than that which has been pointed out to mankind by all seers and prophets, no other than the one taught by the Hindu seers of old Ahimsa Paramo Dharmah—non-violence is the supreme law and duty—no other than what Christ taught in the great Sermon on the Mount—no other than what the Quran described as "Surata al-rein amanta alimen shair al maghdous abhem wa la dalim".

### EXPLOITATION

"When we think of peace in the world we may not ignore the fact that while exploitation of one section of humanity by another is the direct effect of the domination and enslavement of the exploiting section by its ever-mounting need of satisfying its ever rising standard of living; it is also the direct cause of conflict between individuals and between nations."

Dr. Rajendra Prasad urged, "exploitation must, therefore, end in every form—social, political, economic and even religious—and everywhere in Asia, in Africa, in Europe and in America. Education of the individual which is the same thing as education of the people at large, in the art of simplicity and self-dependence, in methods which can enable him to seek happiness within himself and to do without having to exploit others is an essential process in the establishment of peace."

Dr. Prasad said, "The appeal and prayer, of the Conference of the Pacifists of the world to the common man and woman of the world is to so shape and mould his or her own individual life as to make it an abode of peace. Its appeal to the nations is to utilise the material and moral resources with each possesses for constructive purposes."

"This is the message of Mahatma Gandhi, the modern apostle of peace who till the other day walked on this earth and infected millions by his life and faith and it is given on this solemn day of the birth of Christ, the Prince of Peace, from the hut which Gandhiji occupied for years at Sevagram in India."

## PHOTO-CHEMICALS INDUSTRY

BOMBAY, Dec. 23.

Representatives of the producers of Photochemicals (Sodium Thiosulphate, Sodium Sulphite and Sodium Bisulphite) met the Tariff Board today for a discussion on the question of continuance of protection to the industry beyond 31st March, 1950. It was pointed out that the indigenous industry has been affected by the Open General Licence Policy of the Government of India during the last shipping period and that the cost of production of the indigenous chemicals has also increased owing to the high cost of the raw materials, like Soda Ash, Caustic soda and Sulphur. On behalf of the Tariff Board, Dr. B. V. Narayana-swamy Naidu undertook to consider these points while formulating the Board's recommendations on the question of continuance of protection to the industry. Representatives of the importers also met the Board earlier in the day.

## MOVE FOR WANT-FREE SOCIETY

### Sarvodaya Decision

WARDHAGANJ, Dec. 24 (UPI): The two-day session of the Sarvodaya Economic Planning Conference, Shree Kaka Kalelkar presiding, concluded here yesterday, after adopting a resolution approving the draft plan which envisages the building up of a permanent socio-economic order and establishment of a non-violent society based on the principles of self-sufficiency and decentralised economy.

The President has been authorised to appoint a small committee to examine the draft plan in the light of Gandhiji's teachings and principles which should be published with the signatures of all delegates before January 30, the second death anniversary of Gandhiji.

It was further decided that arrangement should be made so that the Congressmen and women signing the policy of statement might create the necessary conditions through the Congress organisation for implementation of the policy and that constructive workers and other workers, not affiliated to any Congress organisation should try as far as possible individually or organisationally to create the necessary atmosphere and public opinion so that the workers, loyal to this policy, and working through the Congress organisation, might get strength and support.

The statement of policy of the Sarvodaya Economic Conference visualises that kind of life and society which one would expect in Sarvodaya order and suggests a policy by which the present economic ills may be removed and steps may be taken towards our ultimate goal.

The policy it is learnt, aims at providing adequate food and clothing and housing facilities, to every average family for the present and such standard of living which may be indicated by an income of Rs. 100 on the basis of present price level, and suggests the ceiling income should be immediately brought down twenty times the minimum income which again is to be brought down within a reasonable period of time, to ten times, ultimately an arrangement of life and society would evolve based on the needs of the people and not their ability.

The ownership of property in such a social order it is further learnt, would rest in the individual co-operative state or the community, the ownership of property should be imbued with a sense of trusteeship.

It is understood, that the policy statement immediately proposes to ban centralised industries competing with decentralised village industries in the sector of food processing like rice mills, banaspati and oil mills.

The Conference is further understood to have passed a resolution stating that controls were injurious to the country and directing that a Committee be appointed by the Chairman of the Conference "to do the needful for the removal of control."

The Chairman of the Conference Shree Kaka Kalelkar, it is further understood will appoint a committee which will work out the policy of statement in details on the basis of facts and statistics and will bring out from time to time facts and pamphlets to educate public opinion.

## PLACE OF NATIONAL LANGUAGE

### Rajendra Prasad's Clarification

WARDHA, Dec. 24 (UPI): The National language was meant only for inter-provincial intercourse, it was not supposed to usurp the rightful place of regional languages, declared Dr. Rajendra Prasad while awarding certificates to about one hundred students of the Seksaria College here today.

Dr. Prasad added that the best arrangement would be to make the regional language the medium of instruction at all stages, but to teach the national language as a compulsory subject in the high schools and universities.

"We have, however, to concede that the medium of education in the All-India institutions ought to be the national language," he declared.

Earlier Mr. Mangaldas Pakvasa, Governor of C. P. and Berar, in a short speech told students that man's greatest duty was service. Now that they were going to gain knowledge through the medium of their mother-tongue. He added, they would be able to render more useful service to their brethren and add to the country's peace, progress and prosperity.

## W. Bengal Reds Losing Ground

### MINISTER'S VIEW

MADRAS, Dec. 24 (P.T.I.): Mr. K. P. Mukherjee, Labour Minister, West Bengal, declared here today that the "Communist influence" in Bengal was "considerably on the wane now".

Mr. Mukherjee arrived here this morning from Calcutta on his way to Mysore to attend the All-India Labour Ministers' Conference and the General Body meeting of the International Labour Organisation.

It should be admitted that the Communists had lost their hold on industrial field, because of the benefit conferred on labour by the institution of industrial tribunals, he told P.T.I.

The number of strikes and lockouts were considerably reduced. Although Communists had been trying to disturb the happy relations between the employees and employers, he said.

"In fact," Mr. Mukherjee declared, "the Communists declared general strikes on several occasions recently, but every time their objectives either proved abortive or did not materialise in effective manner."

The Minister said that Communists were now exploring "new fields of activity" and had penetrated into rural areas "to incite peasants against their landlords."

"There were incidents of looting and violence in rural areas in Bengal, but now the situation is almost normal," he said.

## DEVELOPMENT OF FISHING INDUSTRY

### Help To Grow More Food Campaign

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Mr. G. D. Tapase, Bombay's Minister for Fisheries, in a recent broadcast talk from the Bombay station of the All India Radio, appealed to the fishing community in the Province to augment the catch of the fish and help relieve the food situation in the country. He emphasised the need for developing the fishing industry on scientific lines and the manufacture of by-products like shark oil and Hasmun liquid.

Remarking that the fishing industry in the country was still in a very backward state and was being looked upon as a mean profession, the Minister urged that this state of affairs must change. He said, "The fish is rich in vitamins and has considerable nutritional value. Our fishing resources, both in the sea and sweet waters, are vast and the development of this industry on scientific lines will, therefore, go a long way to help our 'Grow More Food' campaign."

Mr. Tapase explained how the Bombay Government was helping the industry, especially by providing steam launches, trawlers, cold-storage facilities and other mechanised apparatus to fishermen. He also stressed the importance of research in this industry.

## SAVE MIDDLE CLASSES FROM RUIN

### City Conference Plea

BOMBAY, Saturday.

A resolution requesting Government not to put any more strain on the middle classes by way of direct and indirect taxation, and to save the middle classes which were the backbone of Government, from utter ruin and extinction, was passed at a Conference of "The Friends of the Middle Classes", held in Bombay today. Mr. V. V. K. Rangachari, ex-President of the Indian Philosophical Society, presided.

## Technical Mission To Japan

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The Government of India are considering a proposal to send a technical mission to Japan to study the progress she has made in the production of power generation plants, the P.T.I. city correspondent understands.

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Mr. S. N. Srinivas Iyer, father-in-law of Mr. A. S. Barathan, General Manager Press Trust of India died at the latter's residence in Bombay today after a short illness. He was 77 and leaves behind 2 sons and 4 daughters.

# SABHA STANDS FOR CULTURAL STATE

## Shun Secularism, Says President Khare

CALCUTTA, December 24. (P.T.I.)

THE 28th session of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha came to an abrupt end.

After Mr. V. D. Savarkar had spoken for fifteen minutes in performing the inaugural ceremony the mike suddenly failed. All efforts to set the mike right having proved ineffective, the Reception Committee adjourned the meeting till tomorrow afternoon when Mr. Savarkar will conclude his address, which will be followed by the Presidential address of Dr. Khare.

### PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

The following is the Presidential address of Dr. Khare which could not be delivered owing to the abrupt ending of the session today but will be delivered tomorrow.

Dr. N. B. Khare said that the Hindu Mahasabha was now re-entering the field of politics with the ideology of "a cultural state of Hindu Rashtra (nation)", after a temporary suspension of its political activities.

"Hindu Mahasabha stands for a secular or more correctly a non-communal Government where all people, to whatever religion or community they may belong, will be equal before the law and will have equal opportunities", Dr. Khare said. At the same time, he added, the Sabha could not "reconcile itself to Pakistan as a 'fait accompli' as its ideal is 'Akhand Bharat'."

Dr. Khare said that the Mahasabha had adopted "more or less a socialist programme", with a view to remedy the unequal distribution of wealth and thus appeal to the common man, but with an emphasis on "Bharatiya culture".

Dr. Khare, a former Congress Premier of the C.P. and Bihar, was making his presidential speech at the 28th session of the Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha.

### SHALL STAND BY

Defining the Sabha's attitude to the Government of India, Dr. Khare said: "We harbour no ill-feelings against the Government. But we have got acute differences of ideology. Nevertheless, we declare that in the event of external aggression, or internal chaos, we shall stand by the Government."

In the course of his address, Dr. Khare made the following observations:

**INDIAN REPUBLIC:** The association of Indian Republic from January 26, 1950 with the Commonwealth is not only "a gross betrayal" of all Congress declarations in the past, but "will be positively harmful and a hindrance to India's natural and national growth and development."

As a solution for the sufferings of Hindus in Eastern Pakistan, Dr. Khare suggested that in view of the common factors between West Bengal and East Bengal it was clearly in the interest of East Bengal to "align with India." Failing this, he added, they should demand "cession of two or three border districts from Eastern Pakistan to rehabilitate our refugees there."

**EVACUEE PROPERTY:** Unless the evacuee property question was solved by a change of policy, it would become "a festering source of danger for generations."

**HYDERABAD:** The recognition of the Nizam as a constitutional monarch was clearly "not justifiable" and the State should be divided into its three linguistic areas and attached to their neighbouring provinces.

**LINGUISTIC PROVINCES:** "If the principle of linguistic provinces was accepted, then it should be simultaneously applied everywhere and provinces of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra, Tamilnad and Kerala should be created. There should be no 'favouritism', as in the case of Andhra. "It is the present policy of vacillation and favouritism that is undermining national unity."

### HINDU CODE BILL

**HINDU CODE BILL:** If it was a secular state, Government should show equal insistence on reforming Mohammedan and Christian laws. The Hindu Code Bill could not be wholly either acceptable or unacceptable. There may be good and bad provisions in it.

"It was 'clearly wrong' to get it voted upon by Mohamandans, Christians and other communities."

**KASHMIR:** The Kashmir People's Convention had already voted for staying in the Indian Union and a plebiscite was "absolutely unnecessary". In any event, the people of India must have a voice and vote in this matter.

**R.S.S.:** "There is no doubt that there is no organisational connection between the R.S.S. and the Hindu Mahasabha. But it cannot be denied that there is "a vital organic connection between the two consisting of identity of ideology. Both of them were based on the "Bharatiya" culture."

Outlining the policy and programme of the Hindu Mahasabha, Dr. Khare said: "The pro-Muslim Congress had always ridiculed the Mahasabha as a communal organisation. The Mahasabha, has, at every stage, fought against the Congress surrender to communalism. Though it has been successful in preventing the formation of Pakistan, the pressure exerted by it has resulted in some good. For instance, the Congress had to give up separate electorates, parity, weightage, reservations of seats and had to adopt Hindi based on Sanskrit and Devnagari script as the Raj Bhasha."

The Mahasabha, Mr. Khare said, had drawn up an economic programme under which land shall belong to the State and key industries nationalised. The satisfactory solution of the refugee problem, Dr. Khare said, must be the primary obligation of the state. He suggested that the Gandhi Memorial Fund should be utilised for helping refugees.

"The Mahatma was a great champion of the down-trodden and awakened the masses. His memory will be always cherished for this. But I cannot worship him as father of the nation, for disruption, disintegration and destruction are no attributes of fatherhood. Godse committed a heinous crime and was rightly hanged."

## HYDERABAD WILL BE DISINTEGRATED

### PROF. Ranga's Hope

VIJAYAVADA, Dec. 24 (P.T.I.): Prof. N. G. Ranga, President, Andhra Provincial Congress Committee expressed the hope that the forthcoming Hyderabad State Constituent Assembly would decide by an overwhelming majority to dismember "the artificial State into linguistic components."

Prof. Ranga who arrived here today from Delhi was commenting on the recent speech of the Governor-General at Hyderabad. He said although usually it was better not to enter into controversial arguments with constitutional heads of the State in the national interests, he was reluctantly obliged to do so. He thought the speech of the Governor-General on the State and the Nizam raised controversial issues which ran counter to lessons of history.

"I hope this is his personal stand and not the Union Government's policy. Otherwise it raised important issues deserving discussion in Parliament," Prof. Ranga added.

The history of Hyderabad's role, said Prof. Ranga, "is a series of betrayals of Indians to the French and the British before, during and after the first Indian war of independence and only thus successive Nizams maintained their so-called integrity."

Prof. Ranga said that Hyderabad's integrity was based on the "suppression of development of component Telugu, Maharashtra and Karnatak peoples under the dead weight of minority dictatorship" and rules of Arabic culture.

## MADRAS PARTITION BODY MEETS

### Question Of Capital Discussed

MADRAS, Dec. 24 (UPI): The Partition Committee set up to settle the details regarding the formation of the Andhra Province met again today and discussed the question of fixing the capital of the new province.

The Committee seems to have felt that the question of fixing the capital should be decided by itself and that the matter should not be left for decision by the Government of India.

On the proposal to have the capital temporarily in Madras it is understood various legal and administrative difficulties inherent in it were explained by the Tamilnad members today to Andhra members of the Committee. The Tamilnad members it appears asked the Andhra members to put their views on the location of the capital in the new province itself in writing and place the same before the Committee.

The Andhra members are understood to have asked for time till tomorrow for further discussion on the question. The Committee thereupon adjourned till tomorrow.

Province. The C. P. and Bombay should be amalgamated together into one province called the Western Province and Madras should remain as it was and should be called the Southern Province.

If this was not possible, Dr. Khare added, the principle of linguistic provinces should be applied simultaneously everywhere and provinces of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra, Tamilnad and Kerala should be created.

Referring to the Hindu Code Bill Dr. Khare said that the Bill was not a question of great urgency today and there were many problems of urgent importance today agitating the public mind and causing great discontent such as "the hanging of black marketeers", and the refugee problem. "Government should stake its all or stand or fall by the solution of these problems."

### SECULARISM

Further, Dr. Khare said, the Congress, by insisting upon a secular State, wanted to convert the Indian nation to "irreligion and materialism," the causes of the moral rot. If this rot was to be stopped the ideology of the secular State must be given up, and the ideology of a cultural State must be adopted.

Mr. Upendra Nath Banerjee, Chairman of the Reception Committee, welcomed the delegates to Hindu Mahasabha Session.

# CITY & SUBURBS

## Today

Hindu: Posh Shud 6, 2006.  
Muslim: Rabi-ul-Arval 4, 1369.  
Parsi: Tir 24, 1319.  
Sunrise 7-9 A.M., Sunset 6-9 P.M.  
High tide 03-41, 15-50. Low tide 10-13, 21-22.

## Today's Engagements

**BHARATIYA VIDYA BHAVAN:** Cultural festival, staging of K. M. Munshi's "Chhlyatej-Thik", (Guj.) B. V. Bhavan, 6-30 p.m., also Art Exhibition, 9 to 12 noon, 3 to 6 p.m.

**SANYUKTA MAHARASHTRA MAHAMANDAL:** "Prabhat pheri" starting from New Haji Kasam Chawl, Lalbaug, 7-30 a.m.

**CONGRESS KHADI BOARD:** Mass spinning at Chipli Chawl, Zaveri Bazar, 8 a.m.

**CONGRESS SEVA DAL:** 26th Annual Day Function, Kamgar Maidan, Parel, 8-30 a.m. Mr. S. K. Patil, Mayor, Presiding.

**BAGWADI HOBALI MOGAVEERA MAHAJANA SANGHA:** Charity show, "Naya Sansar", New West End Cinema, Lamington Rd., at 8-30 a.m.

**FRIENDS OF THE MIDDLE CLASSES:** Meeting, Forbes Sabha Hall, 3-30 p.m.

**HINDUSTHAN SCOUT ASSN.:** Bombay North Division Annual Scout Rally, Shivaji Park, 4 p.m. Mr. S. K. Patil, presiding.

**KURLA MALAYALEE SAMAJ:** Christmas celebration, G.E.T.I. High School Hall, Pipe Road, Kurla, 5 p.m.

**UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS:** Lecture on Christmas, Jehan-ri Wadia Building, Opp. Flora Fountain, 6-15 p.m.

**VILE PARLE YOUTH LEAGUE:** Sri. Virchand Sheth will deliver the second lecture in the "Freedom and after" series at 9-0 a.m. at the Rashtriya School Hall, Bajaj Road, Vile Parle.

**CONGRESS SEVA DAL:** Twenty-sixth Annually Day at 8-30 a.m. at Kamgar Maidan, Parel.

## FOOD EXHIBITION IN ANDHERI

(From Our Correspondent)

**VILE PARLE, Dec. 24.** Prominent members of the Bombay Suburban District Congress Committee are taking an active part in the "Grow More Food" campaign and propaganda meetings have been held in several villages in the district. The Committee has also organised a "Save Food" exhibition which will be opened at the Mohandas Amarsy High School, Andheri, on Sunday afternoon. The Parle-Andheri Municipal Board at its meeting held on Thursday passed a resolution requesting the B.E.S.T. Committee to increase the number of Buses over the A3 and O routes and to extend the A route upto Jogeshwari Railway Station. At present A route buses terminate near the Mahim Causeway and passengers going further up have to wait in long queues to get accommodation to reach their destination beyond Mahim.

By another resolution, the Municipal Board decided to approach the police to tackle the problem of the destruction of stray dogs which are proving a menace to the residents in the municipal area.

# Pulse Of The City

**PROHIBITION ARRESTS:** The Mahim police arrested Yugappa Nagappa and Mallappa Yellappa under the Bombay Prohibition Act, yesterday. The first suspect, it was alleged, was found carrying four gallons of illicit liquor along Dharavi Road and the second suspect following him. Mr. H. J. Chinoy, at the Bandra court released them on bail.

**LESSON FOR ALL:** One member of a gang took out some dust and asked the accused to test whether it was pure gold. On testing the dust was found to be pure gold. Thereafter the cheats represented that they had 75 tolas of that dust which they wanted to dispose of at a cheap rate. The bargain was struck and the money and gold changed hands. The victim then got a portion of the dust tested and to his dismay found that what he had got was not gold but copper. The police have arrested alleged leader of this gang, Babu Manore but his two accomplices are still at large.

**BENEFIT OF DOUBT:** Tarmahomed Alimohamed arrived in Bombay from Karachi by air on Dec. 26. He had a temporary permit which he produced before a police officer at the Santa Cruz air port. The latter rubber-stamped the permit "Permitted to land" and endorsed it. The permit was then handed back to the accused. Later the accused was arrested by the C.I.D. (Permits Branch) on charge of failure to report his arrival. Sub-inspector Salvi of the Permits Branch in his evidence admitted that he had received information about the arrival of Tarmahomed from the officer at the airport. Acquitting the accused Mr. Khambatta, the Presidency Magistrate, observed that under Rule 9 of the Permits System Rules, the accused had to report his arrival to the Deputy Commissioner of Police, but no time had been specified. The benefit of doubt, the Magistrate held, must go to the accused. The Magistrate's second objection was that it had not been mentioned as to before which Deputy Commissioner the permit holder was to report. The Magistrate stressed the need for the Government to amend the Permit System Rules so as to remove the ambiguities.

**COULDN'T ESCAPE:** Three persons were arrested for allegedly breaking open a godown in the Khatau Gulli and removing cotton sarees valued at Rs. 500 by the Mahabouri police yesterday. The Girgaum Magistrate remanded them into police custody today.

## FALL IN NIGHT TEMPERATURES

### Weather Report

**POONA, Dec. 24. (P.T.I.):** The following is the weather summary for Saturday:—

Weather has been dry over the country.

Night temperatures were appreciably below normal in Madhya Bharat and Assam and appreciably above normal in Orissa, Cochin Nagpur, the east Central Provinces and Vindhya Pradesh.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL SUNDAY EVENING:**—Dry weather will continue over the country.

Night temperatures will fall in Vindhya Pradesh, the north-east Central Provinces and the southern division of the east United Provinces.

The following is the weather chart showing the maximum and minimum temperatures and rainfall in inches during the past 24 hours from Dec. 1 and departure from normal recorded at 8 a.m. on Saturday:—

Abu — 48 0 0 0 minus 0.1, Ahmedabad 82 57 0 0 0, Ahmednagar 84 82 0 0 minus 0.2, Ambala 74 39 0 0.2 minus 0.1, Bangalore 81 54 0 0 minus 0.4, Baroda 84 45 0 0 0, Belgaum 84 51 0 0 minus 0.3, BOMBAY, 83 63 0 0 minus 0.1, Calcutta 80 54 0 0 minus 0.2, Darjeeling 44 (44) 33 0 0.4 plus 0.2, Delhi 74 44 0 0 minus 0.3, Hyderabad (Dn.) 86 63 0 0 minus 0.3, Jabalpur 83 51 0 0 minus 0.3, Kolhapur 87 49 0 0 —, Lucknow — 45 0 0 minus 0.2, Madras 82 65 0 0 minus 0.3, Mahabaleswar 77 61 0 0 minus 0.3, Mussoorie 52 38 0 0.4 minus 0.7, Nagpur 85 55 0 0 minus 0.3, Neilore 87 64 0 0 minus 2.7, Ootacamund 88 38 0 0 minus 1.4, Patiala 71 40 0 0.3 —, Patna 75 51 0 0 minus 0.2, Poona 85 47 0 0 minus 0.1, Rajkot 81 45 0 0 minus 0.1, Shillong 59 35 0 0.1 minus 0.3, Surat 84 54 0 0 0, Vizagapatnam 80 68 0 0.1 minus 0.5.

## CITY REDS PRODUCED BEFORE MAGISTRATE

**BOMBAY, Saturday.** The 64 Communists, nine of whom are girls, who were arrested on May 8 last for allegedly convening an unlawful assembly at Kamgar Maidan, Parel, and for taking out a procession without the previous sanction of the Commissioner of Police, were produced at the Esplanade Court today, before Presidency Magistrate, Rao Sahab C. B. Velkar.

The further evidence of the prosecution consisted of identification of some of the members of the Assembly by police constables and other witnesses.

## BYE-ELECTIONS TO ASSEMBLY

### Dates Revised

**BOMBAY, Saturday.** Dates for the various stages of the bye-elections to fill 12 vacancies in the Constituent Assembly of the Indian Union from Bombay Province have been revised. According to the new programme, the last date for receipt of nominations in the office of the Secretary to Bombay Legislative Assembly, Council Hall, Bombay, is Tuesday, January 3, 1950 (up to 5-30 p.m.). Scrutiny of nominations will be held at 12 noon on Wednesday, January 4 and the withdrawal of candidature will be allowed up to 12 noon on Thursday, January 5. Polling will take place in the office of the Secretary to the Bombay Legislative Assembly, on Friday, January 13, from 11 a.m. to 5-30 p.m.

Votes will be counted on Saturday, January 14, at 12 noon, in the Secretary's office and the result will be declared forthwith.

## Serving Of Liquor During Dances On Dec. 31

**BOMBAY, Saturday.** Hotels, refreshment rooms and clubs have already been allowed by the Government of Bombay to serve liquor up to 12 midnight on December 31 next. The Government has also no objection to liquor being served at clubs, institutions, hotels, etc. up to that hour on that night during dances also. However, if dances are continued thereafter no liquor will be allowed to be consumed.

two annas per copy; and (b) the average circulation (including free copies) of which has not exceeded 1,000 copies per publication during the immediately preceding calendar year.

The Government Notification embodying this decision has been published in Part I of the Bombay Government Gazette, Extraordinary of December 23, 1949.

## TODAY'S RADIO

B. B. C.

SUNDAY, Dec. 25.

B.B.C. News Schedule and Metro Bands: 6-30 a.m.—31 and 41; 8-30—31 and 41; 9-30—31; 11-30—19 and 29; 12-30 p.m.—13 and 19; 4-30—13 and 16; 6-30—13 and 16 9-30—19 and 31.

**GENERAL OVERSEAS SERVICE:** 6-45 a.m. Christmas Greetings in Words and Music from Vera Lynn, 7 Carols from King's College, Chapel Cambridge, 8 Melody Mix-ture, 8-15 Weekly Sports Review, 8-45 Melody Time, 9-40 Christmas Hymn, 10-0 In Town Tonight, 10-30 B.B.C. Northern Orchestra, 11 Sports Review, 11-40 The Radio Doctor, 11-45 Time for Worship, 12 Arthur Askey in Arthur's Upside-Down Christmas, 12-45 p.m. Listeners' Choice, 1-30 Butter in a Lordly Dish, 2 Religious Service, 2-30 Melody on Strings, 2-50 Christmas Bells, 3 The Mother and the Child, 3-45 Carols, 4-45 Nights at the Opera, 5-45 Music Magazine, 6 Christmas at Much-Binding-in-the-Marsh, 6-45 Journey into Melody, 7-30 Commonwealth Christmas, 8-30 Christmas Broadcast by H. M. King George the Sixth, 8-45 Gracie Fields' Christmas Party, 9-15 Christmas Message, 9-40 Christmas Bells, 10 Sunday Service, 10-30 Life in Britain.

**EASTERN SERVICE:** 7-30 p.m. Radio Roundabout, 8 Programme Parade, 8-5 A.J. K. Tam-seel, 8-20 Ap Ki Jawab Me, 8-30 Bachchon Ke Lie.

BOMBAY

7-30 a.m. Bhor Bhare, 7-40 Today's programme, 7-45 R. Veen, g.e.t., 8-15 Shalini Dhavale, G. toli, 11-0 Tape Sitar, 11-45 K. Ingale, smudh sa a.g., 12-15 p.m. "Harina Mang" by B. Virani, 12-50 Rasika Veen, bhajan, 1-10 A Rakha, tabla, 1-40 Make mine music, 5-0 K. Ingale, jait, 6-10 G. Geet by A. Navsariwala, 6-20 S. V. purvi, 7-0 Stage dhun, 7-10 Locals, 7-20 G. Pad, 7-30 A Rakha, tabla, 7-45 For industrial workers, 8-30 Samaveda gan, 8-45 Shalini Dhavale, Iman, 9-15 R. Veen, g.e.t., 9-30 Radio trailer, 9-45 Radio orchestra, 10-0 X'mas carole, madrigal choir, 10-30 Melody trio.

**VARIATIONS—8-0 a.m.** A Rakha, tabla, 8-45 Shalini Dhavale, bhajan, 1-0 p.m. Shalini Dhavale, bhavgeet, 1-10 K. Songs, 1-50 S. Vyas, bhavgeet, 5-30 For children (M), 6-0 Tarana, 6-20 For rural listeners, 8-15 G. S. Yellapurkar, bhajan, 9-0 N. Jadhav's party, powada, 10-0 Shalini Dhavale, chhayanat, 10-30 K. Ingale, basant.

BARODA

7-30 Vandana, 7-40 As in Ahmedabad, 8-15 For children, (G), 5-30 p.m. Raag madhuvanto, 5-40 Misc. songs, 6-10 K. Kolhapur, been, 6-20 G. D. Patel's party, bhajan, 6-30 For rural listeners, 7-0 Geet madhuri, 7-15 K. Kolhapur, been, 7-30 G. D. Patel, bhajans, 7-45 U. Joshi, poetry-reading, G. 8-0 O. Thakur, champak, 8-10 Locals, 8-30 M. A. Golvalkar, Kh. vilambit, 9-15 K. Kolhapur, been, 9-30 M. A. Golvalkar, Nayaki kannada.

AHMEDABAD

7-30 a.m. As in Baroda, 7-40 N. R. Bengal, kh. vilambit, 8-15 For children, 5-30 p.m. As in Baroda, 6-10 As in Baroda, 6-20 Farid, 6-30 For industrial workers, 7-0 G. N. Rayal, misra kafi, 7-15 As in Baroda, 7-30 N. R. Bengal, kh. raj ranjani, 7-45 U. Joshi, poetry-reading, 8-0 G. N. Rayal, thumrit, 8-10 Locals, 8-30 As in Baroda, 9-15 As in Baroda.

## Rehabilitation Official Visiting Bombay

**BOMBAY, Saturday.** Mr. Meherchand Khanna, Adviser to the Relief and Rehabilitation Ministry, Government of India, is arriving in Bombay on December 28, to make an on-the-spot study of the various hardships which the displaced persons are stated to be undergoing in Bombay, it is learnt today.

Mr. Khanna will spend one week in Bombay, during which period he will visit all the relief camps in Bombay province.

## Ration Shops To Remain Closed On Monday

**BOMBAY, Saturday.** All Government Grain Shops, Government Cloth Shops and Government Godowns as well as the Civil Supplies Godowns will remain closed on Monday, December 26, 1949 on account of X'Mas.

## RESULTS OF M. Sc. (Agri.) EXAMINATION

OCTOBER 1949

Mr. G. M. Talgeri, who appeared for Part B only has passed the examination.

MARCH 1949

Mr. Y. S. Kulkarni has passed the examination.

## Newspaper Advertisement Tax Exemptions

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The Government of Bombay has decided to exempt the following classes of advertisements from the payment of the Newspaper Advertisements Tax:

(1) Advertisements appearing in any newspaper published after December 31, 1949 (1) by any School, College, or University, or (2) by an institution or association which, in the opinion of an officer authorised by the Provincial Government in this behalf, is formed or conducted for any religious, charitable or educational purposes other than those specified in clause (1).

(2) Advertisements appearing in any newspaper published —

(a) between January 1, 1950 and March 31, 1950 provided that (a) an issue of such newspaper is priced at a rate not exceeding two annas per copy and (b) the average circulation (including free copies) of such newspaper during the period from January 1, 1949 to December 31, 1949 did not exceed 1,000 copies per publication;

(ii) in any financial year after March 31, 1950 provided that (a) an issue of such newspaper is priced at a rate not exceeding

# Tribe In Devastating Mood, Bags 9 For 50

## WEST BENGAL SKITTLED OUT FOR 122: TOURISTS 91 FOR 1 AT END OF FIRST DAY

CALCUTTA, December 24. (PTI). THE Commonwealth cricket team had placed themselves in a very commanding position at the end of the first day's play against the West Bengal Governor's XI. After getting the home side out for a total of 122 runs on a perfect wicket, the visitors put up 91 runs in reply for the loss of one wicket only. Thus they are only 31 runs behind with nine wickets in hand and can look forward to the resumption of the game on Monday with confidence.

George Tribe was in a devastating bowling form and caused the collapse of the home side by capturing nine wickets for 50 runs in one spell of 23 overs of which ten were maidens.

Tribe completed his fiftieth wicket of the tour when he claimed his first victim today. From then onwards bowling with guile and venom Tribe had the batsmen tied in knots. There was a grand opportunity for him of having all the ten wickets and he missed it narrowly when the last wicket to fall went to Ray Smith.

A holiday crowd of 20,000 saw only P. B. Dutt and P. Roy of the local batsmen play with some degree of confidence. Dutt played when Tribe had not come on but P. Roy faced a crisis while wickets were falling in quick succession. As a matter of fact, seven wickets had then fallen for the addition of 21 runs to the total. But P. Roy played with confidence and courage for 121 minutes and the top-scorer for his side with 37 runs.

Livingston and Oldfield gave the

## BOMBAY TEAM FOR BARODA

The United Youths Cricket Team will commence its 4th Annual Cricket Tour for Baroda from 25th December 1949 and will play four matches with the Baroda High School, Provisional Club, Gun Fighters XI and Baroda College on 26th, 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st December 1949 respectively.

The following players will represent the team:— M. Zubair F. Maniar (Captain), M. V. Kshirsagar (Vice-Capt.) B. U. Oza (Manager), B. S. T. Vircar, M. M. Samuel, I. A. Shaikh, Munir Khan, Fazal Mohamed, S. G. Sawardekar, D. S. Gangoli, Y. Y. Chan, Taher D. Kachwala, P. E. Pacha, A. S. Urunkar, A. K. Sadruddin and K. M. Mithalwala. The team leaves for Baroda today (Sunday) by Baroda passenger.

## MADRAS' GOOD SHOW

### Century Partnership In Inter-University Cricket

MADRAS, Dec. 24. (PTI). After scoring 215 runs in as many minutes Mysore dismissed half the Madras side for 50 runs at the end of the first day's game in the four-day Ranji Trophy cricket match which commenced here today.

The second wicket century partnership between Shyamsunder and Timmappaiah enabled Mysore to take the score past 200. P. C. Alva returned the best bowling analysis for Madras by capturing four wickets for 46 runs while K. S. Kannan and A. K. Saranganap took three wickets each for 43 and 44 runs respectively.

Madras made a disastrous start losing their first three wickets for just one run. Mahalingam, Mysore's opening bowler doing this damage. At the close of play Madras had made fifty for five, 165 runs behind Mysore.

Mahalingam of Mysore took three of the five Madras wickets for only two runs in six overs five of which were maidens.

### Baroda Team For Inter-Schools Tourney

BARODA, Dec. 24. (PTI). The following have been chosen to play for Baroda Schools Eleven in the All-India Inter-Schools Tournaments commencing at Poona on December 27 onwards:

Jayasingrao M. Ghorpade (Captain), Kanungo, S. R. Gaekwad, D. D. Gaekwad, Bandel, Y. G. More, A. C. Patel, D. S. Agarwarker, J. D. Powar, S. K. Patel, B. K. Patel, D. N. Bagwe, Kisan Singh, C. D. Patel and T. J. Limaye.

## BOMBAY AND BENGAL TEAMS CONTINUE WINNING

### Inter-Provincial Table Tennis Championships

HYDERABAD (Dn.), December 24. TWENTY-FIVE matches were played this morning in the National and Inter-Provincial Table Tennis Championships, being conducted in the All Saints School, Hyderabad.

A notable feature of the day was K. Jain's (Bengal) clean victory over Mekhri, one of Hyderabad's best players, in two straight games, Jain winning 21-13, 21-13.

The following were the scores:— Bombay beat Delhi by five matches to nil.

D.H. Kapadia beat Om Prakash (Delhi) 21-18, 21-12; Khan-chand beat Mathews 21-16, 21-13; Motiwalla beat Saxena 17-21, 21-8; 21-14; Khanchand beat Om Prakash 14-21, 21-19, 21-18; Kapadia beat Saxena 21-16, 21-18.

Madras beat Ceylon by five matches to two.

Ratnayake beat Parthasarathi (Madras) 21-16, 21-12; J.V.S. Rao beat C. Daniel 21-17, 21-14; Krishna Murthi beat Pestonji (Ceylon) 21-15, 21-17; J.V.S. Rao beat Ratnayake 21-17, 21-11; Prathasarathi beat Pestonji 21-19; 19-21; 22-20; C. Daniel beat Krishna Murthi 21-4, 21-10; J.V.S. Rao beat Pestonji 21-11, 21-16.

Bengal beat East Punjab by five matches to one.

Narindra Mohan Lal beat M. Halder 21-17, 21-17; K. Ghosh (Bengal) beat T.C. Sud 21-12, 21-13; Bhandari beat Berinder Singh 21-10, 21-9; M. Halder beat Sud 21-9, 21-8; Bhandari beat N. M. Lal 21-15, 21-15; K. Ghosh beat Berinder Singh 21-7, 21-2.

Bengal beat Hyderabad by five matches to one.

K. Jain beat Rangaswami (Hyderabad) 21-14, 21-16; K. Ghosh beat Krishna Prasad 21-13, 21-8; Mekhri beat J. De 21-13, 21-14; K. Ghosh beat Rangaswami 21-19, 21-7; K. Jain beat Mekhri 21-13, 21-13; J. De beat Krishna Prasad 21-13, 21-16.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

Madras beat Bengal by three matches to two.

Miss C. Madan (Bengal) beat Mrs. C.K.K. Pillay 21-12, 21-10; Miss A. Rukmani beat Mrs. C. Norrie 21-12, 21-16; Mrs. Norrie and Miss Madan beat Mrs. Pillay and Miss A. Rukmani 21-15, 19-21, 21-15; Mrs. Pillay beat Mrs.

Norrie 17-21, 21-9, 21-18; Miss Rukmani beat Miss Madan 21-13, 21-14.

J. V. S. Rao of Madras beat Uttam Chandarana of Bombay in two straight games in the Inter-Provincial Table Tennis Tournament today.

This is India's Number One player's second defeat, the first being yesterday when M.V.S. Vittal got better of him.

Chandarana was not in form today and his famous forearm strokes missed their marks. Rao played a defensive game.

If Chandarana appeared over-confident in the first game which J.V.S. cond was prolonged and gruelling. Both ran a neck and neck race until Rao took at 22-20, the fight in the set they drew level at 17-all, eighteen all, nineteen all and twenty all and then Chandarana fell out of the running conceding two more points and a victory to his opponent.

### Tennis Results

The following are the results of matches played in the International Tennis Championship of Asia today:—

MEN'S SINGLES (First Round)

S. C. Mishra (India) beat B. J. Pinklekrantz (Israel) 6-1, 6-3, 6-1.

MEN'S SINGLES (Second Round)

Narendranath (India) beat R. Carmona (Philippines) 6-1, 6-4, 6-3; Dilip Bose (India) beat J. Bartoli (Spain) 6-2, 6-2, 6-0; P. Washer (Belgium) beat Vishnu Mohan (India) 6-1, 6-2, 6-1; F. Ampon (Philippines) beat J. A. Withnell (India) 6-0, 6-0, 6-1.

MEN'S SINGLES (First Round)

Nareish Kumar (India) beat A. Weiss (Argentina) 6-1, 6-2, 6-3; V. Cernick (Czechoslovakia) beat Par-kunda (India) 6-4, 6-2, 6-3.

MEN'S SINGLES (Second Round)

M. Branovic (Yugoslavia) beat C. B. Madan (India) 4-6, 6-1, 6-4, 6-3; P. Remy (France) beat Mahindar Singh (India) 9-7, 7-5, 6-2; R. Deyro (Philippines) beat G. Vasant (India) 6-2, 6-2, 6-2; Spychala (Born Poland) beat P. S. Seshadri (India) 6-1, 6-3, 6-2; R. Abdessalam (France) beat J. M. Mehta

## BOMBAY IN STRONG POSITION

### Inter-University Cricket

BOMBAY, Saturday. Playing in the first round of the Inter-University Cricket Tournament at the Brabourne Stadium, Bombay were in a commanding position at the end of the first day's play on Saturday for after putting out Nagpur for 50 she made 119 for the loss of four wickets largely because of an unbroken 91 by G. S. Ramchand.

The visitors gave an altogether weak display against the bowling of Benram Iran and S. P. Gupta, each of whom claimed four wickets for 20 runs.

Bombay were given a good start by Iran and Uppikar who put on 55 for the first wicket. Thereafter two wickets fell while the total was augmented by six runs. But Ramchand was then concerned in two stands. First in alliance with D. P. Medhi he arrived the total 127 for the fourth wicket and then he and L. B. Kenny were unseaten when stumps were put, the total being 219.

Ramchand's 91 was characterised by powerful strokes all round the wicket and he was lucky to survive a stumping chance when 83.

The match will be continued on Sunday at 10-30 a.m.

NAGPUR UNIVERSITY (1st Innings)

K. Jamaji b Gupta 17, A. K. Kelkar 10, b Palwankar 0, S. S. Jog 6, Palwankar b Gupta 17, S. A. Rahim (Capt.) b Irani 3, R. Narasimhan 10, b Irani 0, G. D. Misra 10, b Irani 5, Y. K. Sahu b Gupta 0, A. V. K. Mudliar run out 22, P. S. Indulkar b Irani 6, R. K. Bhavne 10, b Gupta 4, S. K. Sahu not out 10, Extras 14, Total 96.

Fall of wickets: 1 for 0; 2 for 38; 3 for 41; 4 for 41; 5 for 45; 6 for 48; 7 for 73; 8 for 76; 9 for 81; 10 for 96.

Bowling Analysis: B. R. Irani 10-16-28-4, Y. B. Palwankar 6-6-3-1, G. S. Ramchand 9-6-7-0, D. H. Shodhan 3-0-8-0, B. J. Govadia 3-0-8-0, S. P. Gupta 18-7-28-4.

BOMBAY UNIVERSITY (1st Innings)

B. R. Irani 10, b Misra 36, R. P. Uppikar b Misra b Rahim 27, Y. B. Palwankar 10, b Misra 4, G. S. Ramchand batting 91, D. P. Medhi 10, b Misra 25, L. B. Kenny batting 35, V. P. Desai, B. J. Govadia, D. H. Shodhan, P. H. Pandhiya, S. P. Gupta to bat Extra 1, Total (for 4 wickets) 219.

Fall of wickets: 1 for 63; 2 for 67; 3 for 69; 4 for 127.

Bowling Analysis: S. S. Jog 10-0-36-0, S. A. Rahim 18-2-44-1, P. S. Indulkar 7-1-24-0, G. D. Misra 18-3-04-3, S. K. Sahu 3-1-4-0, A. V. K. Mudliar 4-0-18-0, R. K. Bhavne 2-0-11-0, Y. K. Sahu 2-0-8-0, K. Jamaji 1-0-8-0.

## AUSSIES RECOVER AFTER BAD START

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 24. (PTI-Reuters)—Australia made a bad start in the first test against South Africa here losing her opening batsmen with only two runs on the board. By lunch the Tourists were seventy-eight for three wickets.

The Australians received two big shocks in the first few minutes when Morris and Moroney the opening pair were dismissed without scoring. On a fairly lively wicket, Morris was caught off the second ball of the match when he swung at McCarthy and the ball flew off his gloving to Tayfield at short leg. Moroney was run out with two runs, which were wickets, on the board. The wicket appeared to be easier after lunch but several lapses in the field had nullified South Africa's chances of dismissing the tourists for a small total.

(India) 6-4, 11-9, (Mehta retired); D. Mitic (Yugoslavia) beat Afzar Hussain (India) 6-0, 6-5, 6-2; G. L. Falsh (Great Britain) b at B. R. Kananipathy (India) 6-1, 6-4, 6-4.

WOMEN'S SINGLES (Second Round)

Mrs. Weiss (Argentina) beat Mrs. Lella Dayal (India) 6-3, 6-4.

MEN'S DOUBLES (First Round)

Narendranath (India) and R. Joyro (Philippines) beat A. Bapty (India) and T. G. Butcher (India) 6-1, 6-1, 3-3.

MEN'S SINGLE. (Second Round)

H. Weiss (Argentina) beat Subbant Singh (India) 6-1 6-0 6-0.

MEN'S DOUBLES (First Round)

R. P. Stroud (India) and Sohanlal (India) beat G. Dey (India) and J. Charanjiva (India) 2-6 6-3 6-4 6-4; S. C. Misra (India) and Dilip K. Bose (India) beat P. Nagu (India) and M. Ramswamy (India) 6-0 6-3 6-3; C. Sri-nivasan (India) and R. Prasad Rao (India) beat S. P. Sabharwal (India) and H. P. Panner (India) 6-3 6-4 6-4.

## No Play Today In Calcutta Match

CALCUTTA, Dec. 24 (P.T.I.).

Tomorrow being Christmas Day, the match between the Commonwealth team and the West Bengal Governor's XI will be resumed on Monday and continued on Tuesday.

Commonwealth team a good start putting on 82 runs for the first wicket. Livingston played freely but Oldfield gave a polished display for his patient knock of 26 runs.

Following are the teams:

GOVERNOR'S XI (First Innings)

Mushtaq Ali (Captain) P. Sen R. Divecha, A. Dasgupta, P. B. Dutt, S. Banerjee, P. Roy, S. N. Banerjee, S. K. Giridhari, N. Chatterjee and B. Frank.

S. Mushtaq (Twelfth man)

N Chowdhury dropped out of the team at the last minute because of a pulled muscle.

COMMONWEALTH TEAM

J. Livingston (Capt), G. Dawkes, D. Fitzmaurice, J. Holt, W. Langdon, N. Oldfield, J. Pettiford, G. Pope, G. R. Smith, G. Tribe, Harry Parks F. Freer (Twelfth man).

GOVERNOR'S XI—(First Innings)

A. Das Gupta b Tribe 11  
P. B. Dutt b Tribe 22  
Mushtaq Ali st. Dawkes b Tribe 0  
P. Roy lbw b Tribe 37  
N. Chatterjee b Tribe 6  
B. Frank c Pope b Tribe 9  
S.N. Banerjee b Tribe 0  
P. Sen lbw b Tribe 0  
R. Divecha st Dawkes b Tribe 9  
S. K. Giridhari not out 17  
S. Banerjee c Parks b Smith 9  
Extras (2 no balls) 2

Total 122

FALL OF WICKETS: 1/33, 2/35, 3/36, 4/42, 5/54, 6/54, 7/54, 8/80, 9/107 10/122.

BOWLING ANALYSIS

Fitzmaurice 8/31/0/0

Pope 6/26/17/0

R. Smith 18.2/7/26/1

G. Tribe 23/10/50/0

Pettiford 6/2/17/0

COMMONWEALTH (First Innings)

N. Oldfield lb.w. b S. N. Banerjee 26

Livingston batting 57

J. K. Holt batting 6

Extras 2

Total (for 1 wkt.) 91

WICKET FELL AT: 82

BOWLING ANALYSIS

S. Banerjee (Sr.) 8 1 34 1

S. Banerjee (Jr.) 5 1 21 0

R. Divecha 5 0 33 0

S. K. Giridhari 2 1 1 0

# Field-Day For Talib At Bombay Races

## GAMBLE FOR LOVE CUTS RECORD TIMING IN 2000 GUINEAS

By Our Racing Correspondent

BOMBAY, Saturday.

WITH big armies of followers, the best three-year-old, Gamble for Love scored a stylish victory, half length from Mansoor Beg in the 2,000 Guineas today at Mahaluxmi.

The shining filly completed the hat-trick today and cut the mile distance in 1 minute and 39 seconds which is equal to the timing recorded by Push On in 1947 and evidently the best timing cut by Indian-breds so far. Out of the fourteen contestants Gamble for Love was the only filly. The start in the race was fairly good with Gamble breaking the line but soon after settling Gang Bhup ran ahead. Rustum was third and Kennereth fourth and Mansoor Beg fifth. Par Excellent who was the slowest out of the gate made up ground quickly and was placed sixth approaching the seven. Your Majesty lay last and Makarpura was his nearest attendant. There was not much of a change at the five but Makarpura was now tailed off. Gang Bhup brought Gamble for Love in the home-stretch and here Mansoor Beg was third. Soon after passing the two the famous Philosopher-Nectar filly slipped into the lead and had a lead of nearly 2 1/2 lengths opposite the grand stands. She looked like scoring convincingly there but Khade on Mansoor Beg made a desperate bid and was separated by half length as they passed below the wire. Mansoor was third another four lengths behind and Chakor finished strongly to place fourth.

Pravina went into the lead soon after the start and made every post a winning post in the Aga Khan's Cup run over twelve furlongs. The firm favourite, Brave Prince, runner-up, Whiteside on his back travelled very strongly at the end but the winner who led by a street had too big a margin and spared 3/4 length.

The field broke away to a false start in the Gulliland Plate and they were called back after travelling a furlong. The favourite, Liberty Belle refused to move at the first time and in spite of having the advantage she ran miserably and was out of the picture. First Royalty strode at great speed over the last twenty yards and the Photo-finish declared her the short-head winner from Shan-E-Hind.

Trainer Talib had a field-day at Mahaluxmi today. He sent out three more winners besides Gamble for Love in the day's rich prize. Agni Mani and Nava Ratna scored fluently in both the divisions of the Navsari Plate and Baaz Bahadur also scored for him convincingly in the Okara Plate.

Objections have become a daily occurrence this season. Kasbekar, rider of Queen of Gwalior who placed behind Baaz Bahadur in the Okara Plate lodged one today and as having no substantial grounds the Stewards overruled it after a brief enquiry.

Fifty-five punters cashed today's treble pool event. Each ticket returned Rs. 2,566.

The following are the results:

### THE NAVSARI PLATE, Division II.—Distance 5 furlongs.

Maharaja of Morvi's AGNI MANI 8-7 Antoo ..... 1  
Mr. B. N. Sanas NAGARPALIKA 8-7 Purtusingh ..... 2  
Mr. Hassamal Dalmal's AMORETTE 8-7 Shaikh ..... 3  
Mr. Fali H. Mehta's RUMBITA 8-7 S. Chavan ..... 4  
Not run: Chanod Star.  
Won by: 2 1/2 lengths, 3 1/2 lengths, 1 1/2 length.  
Time: 1 minute 3 3/5 seconds.  
Tote paid: Win Rs. 19. Places Rs. 15, Rs. 24 and Rs. 42.  
Trainer: Talib.

### THE NAVSARI PLATE, Division I.—Distance 5 furlongs.

Maharaja of Morvi's NAVA RATNA 8-7 Kheemsingh ..... 1  
Rani of Jetpur's MY AZIZA 8-7 Purtusingh ..... 2  
Messrs. R. P. Ebrahim, A. A. Nensy and S. K. Marikia's SHAHZADI HASINA 8-7 Tasi ..... 3  
Mr. Ahmed Abbas' SHOOKARIYA 8-7 N. Dar ..... 4  
Not run: Kranti.  
Won by: 2 lengths, 6 lengths, 1 length.  
Time: 1 minute 4 seconds.  
Tote paid: Win Rs. 32. Places Rs. 20, Rs. 16 and Rs. 91.  
Trainer: Talib.

### THE BORIVLI PLATE, Division II.—Distance 7 furlongs.

Mr. P. D. Aswani's PICK MONEY 8-1 Purtusingh ..... 1  
Maharaja of Kolhapur's PORTOI 8-6 J. Bhoole ..... 2  
Mrs. and Mr. Justice's MR. RAMBLER 8-12 Gaus Khan ..... 3  
Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Lakhia's LUMINARY 8-10 Argade ..... 4  
Not run: Plucky Princess and Time Bomb.  
Won by: 3/4 length, 1 3/4 lengths, 2 1/4 lengths.  
Time: 1 minute 30 seconds.  
Tote paid: Win Rs. 30. Places Rs. 14, Rs. 17 and Rs. 18.

Trainer: E. Mahomed.

### THE C. C. GULLILAND PLATE.—Distance 1 mile.

Mrs. and Mr. Justice's FIRST ROYALTY 8-7 Whiteside ..... 1  
Maharani of Gwalior and Mrs. R. S. Tirodkar's SHAN-E-HIND 9-4 Kasbekar ..... 2  
Mr. J. C. Merchant's FITNA 8-8 Duffy ..... 3  
Rao Saheb D. K. Parker's PAPER KING 8-13 Rickaby ..... 4  
Not run: Swan Walk, Billet Doux, Zam Zam and Rana Pratap.  
Won by: Short head, 1 1/2 lengths, Neck.  
Time: 1 minute 40 3/5 seconds.  
Tote paid: Win Rs. 49. Places Rs. 18, Rs. 29 and Rs. 17.  
Trainer: Marrable.

### THE INDIAN 2000 GUINEAS (1949)—Distance 1 mile.

Messrs. M. H. Ahmedbhai and A. J. Wadia's GAMBLE FOR LOVE 8-8 Kheemsingh ..... 1  
Mr. F. M. Potia's MANSOOR BEG 8-11 P. Khade ..... 2  
Maharaja of Morvi's MANZOOR 8-11 Duffy ..... 3  
Mrs. Sakinabai H. Ahmedbhai and Mr. A. H. Ahmedbhai's CHAND CHAKOR 8-11 S. Chavan ..... 4  
Not run: Desert Kid, King of Diamonds, Maquerade and Rukhsana.  
Won by: 1/2 length, 4 lengths, 3/4 length.  
Time: 1 minute 39 seconds.  
Tote paid: Win Rs. 15. Places Rs. 11, Rs. 12 and Rs. 12.  
Trainer: Talib.

### THE OKARA PLATE.—Distance 1 mile.

Messrs. A. H. Ahmedbhai and Pursbottam Jethabhai's BAAZ BAHADUR 8-6 Antoo ..... 1  
Maharaja of Gwalior's QUEEN OF GWALIOR 7-11 Kasbekar ..... 2  
Maharajadhiraj of Jammu and Kashmir's DEV DOOT 8-4 Jones ..... 3  
Mr. Fali H. Mehta's YEARLING 8-8 S. Chavan ..... 4  
Not run: Reparter, Sweet Maryla, Queen Anne, La Jawab and Find Out.  
Won by: 2 lengths, 3 lengths, 3/4 length.  
Time: 1 minute 40 4/5 seconds.  
Tote paid: Win Rs. 45. Places Rs. 24, Rs. 48 and Rs. 39.

31, Rs. 52 and Rs. 18.

### THE AGA KHAN'S CUP.—Distance 1 1/2 miles.

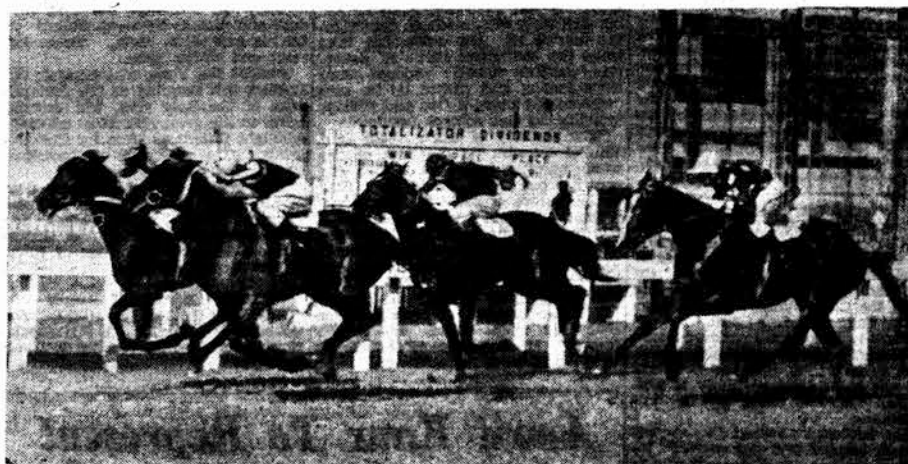
Mr. W. L. Meler's PRAVINA 8-7 Jones ..... 1  
Mrs. L. Hoon and Mrs. Daljit Singh's BRAVE PRINCE 7-9 Whiteside ..... 2  
Messrs. Chandulal J. Shah and M. H. Ahmedbhai's JANE JIGAR 8-8 Kheemsingh ..... 3  
Sir Shantidas Askuran's NAVVARA 8-13 Duffy ..... 4  
Not run: Boop's Fancy.  
Won by: 3/4 length, 4 lengths, 1/2 length.  
Time: 2 minutes 40 seconds.  
Tote paid: Win Rs. 89. Places Rs. 30, Rs. 16 and Rs. 19.  
Trainer: E. C. Forsyth.

### THE VELLARD PLATE.—Distance 1 mile.

Mr. Fali H. Mehta's LOCHINVAR 7-13 Cunningham ..... 1  
Mr. Syed Amjad Ali's SHOW ON 7-10 I. Khan ..... 2  
Mrs. A. E. Raymond and Mr. R. A. Fox Raymond's LONDON TAN 8-7 Purtusingh ..... 3  
Mr. Sion P. Nessim's DARK ROY 8-1 P. Khade ..... 4  
Not run: Musafir, Flying Princess, Embarkation, Riviera, Navroze, Lira Malt, Bihari, Furat and Unfamed Prince.  
Won by: 1 1/2 lengths, Head, Neck.  
Time: 1 minute 44 2/5 seconds.  
Tote paid: Win Rs. 67. Places Rs. 24, Rs. 72 and Rs. 22.  
Trainer: Dinshaw.

### THE BORIVLI PLATE, Division I.—Distance 7 furlongs.

Mr. Alimohamed Chotani's PRETTY TOWN 8-10 P. Kzade ..... 1  
Messrs. A. R. Chino and Jal H. Mehta's TRUE LOVE 8-6 A. Ahmed ..... 2  
Messrs. Prem Nath and M. Gokal Chand's KICKSHAW 8-2 Damodar ..... 3  
Mr. Shareef A. Mokoobhai's AARZU 9-1 Kheemsingh ..... 4  
Not run: Indian Port, Chandrakor and Belle Amie.  
Tote paid: Win Rs. 49. Places Rs. 24, Rs. 48 and Rs. 39.  
Trainer: E. Mahomed.



A photo finish was called for, when First Royalty (owned by L. R. Banjer) and Gwalior's Shan-E-Hind passed the post locked together. The winner First Royalty is seen second from the rails, and the other two are Paper King and Fitna, who finished fourth and third respectively in the race.



The start of the Aga Khan's Spring Cup—run over a mile and a half—which was won by Pravina, six-year-old English mare. Pravina's effort is all the more creditable, for she made this a start to finish affair, and in the above picture Pravina is third from the left.

## Captain's Judgment Was Seriously At Fault

### HOW AIR-INDIA'S 'DAKOTA' CRASHED NEAR KARACHI

NEW DELHI, December 24. (PTI) — The accident to the Air-India 'Dakota' which crashed near Karachi on December 27, 1947, was attributed to the pilot losing control of the aircraft in conditions of visibility which was most likely caused by "inadequate illumination of the flying instruments due to faults in the lighting stems", according to the report by Mr. J. P. Joffcock, Director-General of Civil Aviation, Pakistan, on the accident. The 'Dakota' which was bound for Bombay carried nineteen passengers and four crew, all of whom were killed.

The report which runs into five pages, was made available to the public in Parliament today by Mr. Khurshed Lal, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Communications.

**WHERE FAULT LAY**  
The report further stated that in the opinion of the enquiry committee the Captain's judgment was seriously at fault in deciding to take off for night flight in bad visibility after an instrument panel lighting system had proved to be unreliable just before take-off, and one of his landing lights was inoperative, at such an important moment on its route.

The report added, a Licensed Aircraft Maintenance Engineer with authority to refuse permission for aircraft to take off, when not fully serviceable had not been maintained by Air-India.

The weather conditions the report stated, at the time of the accident were not worse than the customary limiting conditions for taking off 'Dakota' aircraft at night.

Further details of the ill-fated 'Dakota', which was operating on a scheduled passenger service between Karachi-Bombay, the report said that the aircraft had arrived at Karachi on December 27, 1947 at 18.05 hours, having been through conditions of deteriorating visibility due to dust. After disembarking his passengers and eight crew members, the Captain, Commander, went to the airport restaurant, while the Company's Traffic Department advised his returned flight. During the night the aircraft was supplied with oil and fuel. After dinner the Captain obtained his clearance in the usual manner. In conditions of bad visibility due to dust haze the crew started the aircraft at 19.00 hours, its being their scheduled time of departure.

**PANEL LIGHTS**  
Shortly afterwards, the report said, the Commander shouted to the station mechanic that the cockpit instrument panel lights would not come on. On boarding the aircraft, the mechanic and the Commander replacing fuses in the main electrical panel. After a while, the Commander expressed himself satisfied with the instrument panel lights, but the mechanic as not given an opportunity of examining that the panel lighting was functioning.

After taxiing for a short distance, the aircraft stopped and the co-pilot requested further assistance from the mechanic, who again boarded the aircraft. The Commander remarked that the starboard landing light was inoperative. But after disembarking of the mechanic, the aircraft, with its landing light, taxied out normally and finally became airborne at 19.38 hours.

**THE END**  
According to the available evidence, the report said, the aircraft appeared to turn again and was seen to be actually losing height from about 200 feet, as it flew over the marine area. Passing out of sight above lightly rising ground, the aircraft crashed at an angle of about 30 degrees, whilst in a violent side-slip from port to starboard. The aircraft caught fire and burned out and there were no survivors.

### Want Of Raw Cotton Tells

BARODA, Dec. 24. (UPI): As raw cotton is not available at controlled rates, the Baroda Spinning and Weaving Mills Ltd., will be completely closed from the 20th January, 1950.

## SOCIALIST CRITICISM

### U. P. Zamindari Abolition Fund A Failure

LUCKNOW, Dec. 24. (UPI). — The U. P. Government's zamindari abolition scheme has proved a colossal failure "only comparable to Mahommad Tughlak's mad adventure to build a new capital", observed Acharya Narendra Deo and Doctor Ram Manohar Lohia, Socialist leaders, in the course of a joint statement on the zamindari abolition fund collections of the U. P. Government.

They pointed out the scheme was put into operation on October 2nd as the herald of a new era, and with the message "seventy lakhs tenants from about one lakh villages have to deposit rupees one hundred and eighty crores in three months to wipe out the feudal order". The three months were almost over, and the collections thus far amounted to a little over five crores, that was three per cent or two pice in the rupee.

Concluding they said: "No matter to what course of recklessness the Government may resort to, zamindari abolition scheme is doomed to failure".

### Holy Year Begins In Rome

VATICAN CITY, Dec. 24. (PTI-Reuters). — Five hundred white doves, symbols of peace, circling the Basilica of St. Peter today announced that the Pope had inaugurated the 25th holy year of jubilee of the Catholic Church. Using a golden and ivory hammer presented by the Catholic workers of Italy, Pope Pius XII, a tall frail figure in gold-embroidered cope and jewelled tiara with triple crown, knocked three times upon the holy door.

At the third stroke, the door, already loosened and mounted on castors, fell gently inwards and swung back to be wheeled away by waiting workmen.

The holy year had begun. From now, for twelve full months until the Pope closes it with a silver trowel, also presented by the workers of Italy, on Christmas eve 1950, that door will remain open—symbolical of Christ's ever open arms, welcoming saint and sinner alike.

Tonight the Pope, who entered the Basilica this morning as the first pilgrim of the holy year, will descend again to the great church to celebrate midnight Christmas Mass for the pilgrims. The mass will be broadcast by the Italian radio network.

This will be only the second time in his career that the Pope has said midnight mass in St. Peter's. The other occasion was the first Christmas eve after the liberation of Rome by the American troops.

**RAJAI BACK AT DELHI**  
NEW DELHI, Dec. 24. (PTI). — The Governor-General Mr. C. Rajagopalachari returned this evening by air from tour.

Heirgnty to the United States of Indonesia India will be represented by her Health Minister Rajkumari Amrit Kaur.

Britain will be represented by Sir Malcolm MacDonald, High Commissioner in South-East Asia and Australia by Mr. L. R. McIntyre of the Commonwealth External Relations Office.

Today, the last Dutch Crown representative in Indonesia Dr. Antonius Lovink held a farewell reception.

### BEVIN'S HEALTH

LONDON, Dec. 24. (PTI-Reuters). — Mr. Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Minister, was taken ill at his home in London early today and a doctor was called. It was later stated that Mr. Bevin had fully recovered and there would be no interference with his plans.

**FOR COLOMBIA**  
Mr. Bevin is due to leave on Tuesday for the conference of Commonwealth Foreign Ministers at Colombo, Ceylon. He will spend Christmas quietly at home in London.

## Australia's Cardinal For India



Cardinal Gilroy, Archbishop of Sydney, left New South Wales on December 9 for Bombay. He will preside as Pontifical Legate at the Plenary Council of India opening at Bangalore on January 6. The Cardinal is seen taking part in the procession of Christ the King, in the grounds of St. Patrick's College before he left for India.

## MIDNIGHT MASS IN BOMBAY

### Bishop Gracias Blesses Indian Republic

"THE last days in January will see the inauguration of our new constitution, a document on the observance of which depend our new found freedom and prosperity. I pray that God of might, wisdom and justice may assist our leaders with the grace of the Holy Spirit".

Thus observed Dr. V. Gracias, Bishop Auxiliary of Bombay, at the Pontifical High Mass at the Christmas Eve Midnight Service on the Cooperage Football Ground before a huge gathering estimated at over 25,000 people.

Dr. Gracias in the course of his message said, "Christmas of this year has an added significance, for on this day amid the peeling of more than a thousand bells in Rome's 365 Churches and Chapels, in the presence of over 11,000 pilgrims from 15 different countries, the Pope opened the Holy Year in St. Peter's Basilica, and thus inaugurated the 1950 Holy Year — the year dedicated to the return of all men to Christ through prayer, penance and the cultivation of virtue."

Striking the Holy Door with a golden hammer and saying, "Open to me the doors of Justice", striking again and saying, "I will go into Thy House, O Lord", and striking yet once again and saying, "Open the doors, for God is with us", with a cross in one hand and a lighted candle on the other hand and kissing the threshold, the Pope entered by the sacred portal.

**SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE**  
Dr. Gracias continued: "Christmas this year has a special significance also because, it ushers in a year that is fraught with great possibilities for India, both in affairs of State and Church."

The last days in January will see the inauguration of our new Constitution, a work to which the labours of so many have been devoted, a document that will reflect our aspiration and our ideals, on the observance of which the fortunes of our new found freedom and the prosperity of our country will depend. And, therefore, already a month before the event, yet very appropriately, today, in my own name and yours, in the name of all citizens of this great Country, here we

erected on the grounds. The music was ably rendered by the Pro-Cathedral Choir. The open air service beneath a canopy of stars, was an impressive and inspiring scene.

## Christmas In City

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Singing "Venite Adoremus" the Christians of Bombay celebrated Christmas in their respective churches to mark the nativity of Christ. Churches were gaily decorated and were filled to the maximum capacity by fervent worshippers, who bedecked in their best went for the midnight Mass which was offered in all churches. A mammoth open air Mass was offered at the Cooperage and attended by thousands of faithful Catholics. A congregation of about 25,000 was present and the Rt. Rev. D. R. Valerianus, Bishop of Bombay officiated.

On the stroke of 12 bells placed in the aisles of churches revealed the infant which hitherto had been concealed in strands of hay. Choral music and laudators acclaimed the birth of the Saviour in all the churches, accompanied by the tolling of bells. Crackers and other detonating varieties of pyrotechnics added to the jubilation manifested in various other ways.

Crowds of merry making christians sang carols and paraded the streets wearing fancy paper caps and carrying streamers. Bands and improvised musical quartets went from place to place in Christian localities heralding the birth of the Lord. The Christmas festivities which began tonight will last till the ushering in of the New Year. Tomorrow there will be a number of dances at several places where people bent on having some fun will flock. It, not being a dry day, liquor flowed freely at the tables of dance houses, tonight in greater quantities than usual, as this is the last wet celebration of the festive season.

DINKERRAO N. DESAI

BOMBAY, Sunday.  
Mr. Dinkerrao N. Desai, Minister for Law and Civil Supplies, Government of Bombay, will leave Bombay for Brounch on Tuesday, December 27.

## Oppression In E. Pakistan

### TRIBAL EXODUS TO ASSAM

SHILLONG, Dec. 24. (UPI). — A large-scale exodus of the Garos and the Hajongs from across the borders of the Mymensingh district in East Pakistan into Assam is reported, following what is described to be Government oppression on them, in the name of suppression of Communist activities in the Mymensingh border area of East Pakistan.

The Deputy Commissioner of Garo hills and the District Congress President are reported to have visited the area and witnessed the exodus of the Hajongs and the tribal people.

## DON'T FORGET THE UNFORTUNATE

### Truman's Christmas Message

INDEPENDENCE (Missouri), Dec. 24. (PTI-Reuters). — President Truman broadcasting a Christmas Message to the United States, tonight urged Americans to remember the world's refugees and homeless, for whom there was "no room at the inn."

The President spoke before pushing a button which illuminated the National Community Christmas Tree in the White House grounds, Washington. As he broadcast thousands of Christians and in other American homes were lighted.

"Sitting here in my own home, so like other homes all over America I have been thinking about some families in other once happy lands", the President said.

"Let us not on this Christmas, in our enjoyment of the abundance with which providence has endowed us, forget those who, because of the cruelty of the war, have no shelter—those multitudes for whom, in the phrase of historic irony, there is "no room at the inn."

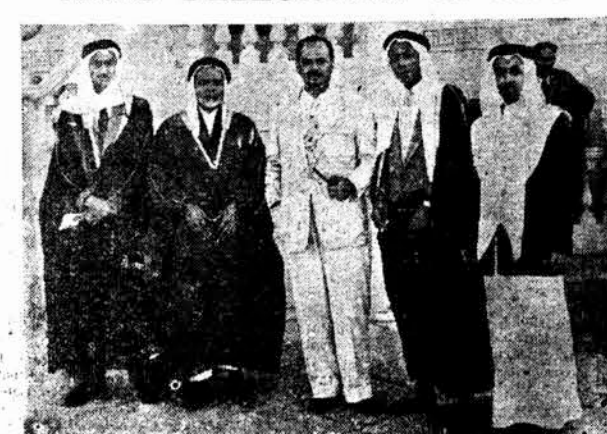
"In this blessed season, let no blind passion darken our counsels. We shall not solve a moral question by dodging it."

### Governor-General's Christmas Message

NEW DELHI, Dec. 24. — His Excellency Shri C. Rajagopalachari, Governor-General of India, has issued the following message on the occasion of Christmas:

"CITIZENS OF INDIA WHO FOLLOW THE CHRISTIAN FAITH AND FORM OF WORSHIP ARE LIVING AMONG HINDUS ARE OF WHOM ARTICLES OF FIFTY IS TO RESPECT ALL FORMS OF WORSHIP. MAY WE ALL FIND JOY AND RENEWED FAITH DURING THIS CHRISTMAS"

## ARAB DELEGATION IN CITY



The Islamic Economic Arab Delegation, led by Mr. M. Ali A. Raza, paid a two-day visit to Bombay on their way to New Delhi from Pakistan. The photo shows the Delegation spending Saturday afternoon at the room at 24, Market.

## Government To Pay 90 Lakhs To Scindias

### HELP TO BUILD SHIPS AT VIZAG YARD

NEW DELHI, December 24. (PTI). — THE Government of India are expected to finalise arrangements in the next few days to enable the Scindia ship-buildings yard in Vizagapatnam to resume ship-building.

Owing to the budgetary position Government have for the present given up the idea of acquiring the ship-building yard and it is learned the question will again be examined sometime in March, 1952. In the meantime representations had been received from the Scindias that they could not possibly maintain the yard idle. Besides some four thousand skilled workmen employed in the yard faced the prospect of disbandment.

Government of India are now considering a proposal whereby orders for the construction of two or three ships are to be placed with the Scindias.

The difference in the price of each of these ships and the estimated cost of constructing one in Vizag yard is said to be approximately thirty lakhs and for the proposed construction of three ships the Government of India will have to pay ninety lakhs more.

This, it is understood, is justified on the ground that ship-building is a key industry and the country cannot afford to have the yard dismantled. It would also give Government time, at least eighteen months, to make the

necessary financial arrangements to take over the yard under State control and would keep the ship-building yard going in the meantime. It is expected that the execution of the contract for the building of three ships of 8,000 tons each would take fifteen months. The project would entail an expenditure of a little less than two crores. It is understood that certain provisions which will be incorporated in the contract would ensure the execution of the work on a no-profit no-loss basis.

One of the reasons for the high cost in the building of ships in India is the country's dependence on overseas markets for several essential materials required in the construction of ships. The most important of them is the shortage in the type of steel required for the purpose.

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR

CALCUTTA, Dec. 24. (PTI): India's Health Minister, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, left for Jogjakarta by air today to attend the inauguration ceremony of the Indonesian Republic as Indian Representative.

## COMMUNIST ARRESTS IN CALCUTTA

### Bombs And Brickbats Thrown At Police

CALCUTTA, December 24. (PTI). — TWENTY-NINE persons, including eight constables were injured in a clash between a police party and members of a Communist-sponsored procession in Allipore area this evening. About 100 persons, including 7 women, were taken into custody in this connection.

**BECOMES MEMBER**  
Kaka Saheb Kalelkar one of the greatest exponents of Gandhian ideology and a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi, is understood to have enrolled himself as a Congress member this year.

AHMEDABAD, Dec. 24. (PTI): Five persons were arrested by the city police today under the Public Security Measures Act.

Following a meeting at the Maldan, where the release of political prisoners was urged, a section of the crowd formed into a procession shouting slogans. Passing through Chowringhee, Devendra Ghosh Road and Allipore Road the procession arrived near the Presidency Jail and jammed the traffic there. When the police party, following the procession, tried to clear the jam, some bombs and stones were thrown at them. Eight of the policemen were injured. The police then made a lathi charge, resulting in injuries to about 20 persons.

A bomb was also hurled at Allipore station on the route, causing slight injury to a constable. Four unexploded bombs were later picked up from the road.

### FRENCH PREMIER GETS CONFIDENCE VOTE

### Cabinet Not Likely To Survive Budget

PARIS Dec. 24. (PTI-Reuters): Premier George Bidault's Government obtained its vote of confidence early this morning by 303 votes to 297.

By this vote, the Assembly agreed to debate the Government's amended Budget Bill.

The narrow victory was regarded here as having considerably weakened the Government's position. Many lobbies observers forecast that the Government would not be able to survive the clause by clause discussion of the Budget Bill beginning on Monday, when votes will be taken on specific taxes to many of which there is widespread opposition.

## Food Drive In U. P.

### RAKSHAK DAL TO RECLAIM LAND

(From Our Correspondent)

ALLAHABAD, Dec. 24. Fifteen thousand group leaders of the Prantiya Rakshak Dal are expected to go into action on 8000 acres of land in "Dhak" jungle in Mathabadi, Lucknow, and Sandila and Hardoi districts when reclamation operations start there on January 15 next.

Drawn from 32 districts of the province, these men will divide themselves into 25 battalions each of about 600 men. In this connection it is also proposed to hold winter training camps for group leaders for a period of 30 days when military training will be imparted to them.

In addition they will be given instructions on subjects like development of compost, green manuring, use of cakes as fertilizers, implements etc. Selected District Organisers, District Field Instructors will be given training in tractor driving also. Operations in the area are expected to be completed by February 15, 1950.

Estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 4,40,000. Army brought under cultivation 1700 acres of land in Lucknow Allahabad, Meerut sub-areas with the assistance of the Provincial Government. They also saved nearly 300 maunds of foodgrains from their ration.

### Money-Lenders Act Amendment

BOMBAY, Saturday. After receipt of assent of the Governor-General of the Indian Union, the Bombay Moneylenders (Amendment) Act, 1949, has been published in the Bombay Government Gazette of December 22, 1949. The amending Act enables courts to impose heavier punishments for offences under the Act. It also inserts a new sub-section in the Act making the charging by moneylenders of interest in excess of the prescribed rates unequivocally and specifically an offence punishable under Section 34.

### LATEST COMMERCIAL NEWS

NEW YORK, Dec. 24. The New York Cotton Market remained closed today and will remain closed on 26th inst. and 2nd January 1950.

### LONDON MONEY MARKET

LONDON, Dec. 24 (PTI-Reuters). Christmas demand for currency left the banks with small amounts of lendable cash during the past week. London Money Market, experienced difficulty and a special buyer had to render fair amount assistance before the books could be balanced. Discount Houses needed funds to meet the large take up of Treasury Bills, sales of bills to banks were on a small scale.

The Bank of England return showed an increase of 6.2 million Sterling in active note circulation. Treasury special account advanced by 17 million Sterling to the record level of 97.9 million Sterling.

Applications for 230 millions Sterling Treasury Bills totalled 292,400,000 Sterling. 230 million Sterling was allotted at an average rate of ten Shillings 4.12 Pence per cent. Next week 230 million Sterling Treasury Bills are offered and Treasury Deposit Receipts nil.

### INDORE SHARE MARKET

(From Our Correspondent)

INDORE CITY, Dec. 24. Following were final quotations on Indore Stock Exchange today: Indore Malwa 131, Hukumchand Mill 583, Bhandari Mill 703, Vinod Mill 365, Kalyanmal Mill 80, Kalyanmal Mill Preference 63, Rajkumar Mill 133, Indore Bank 63.

On Indore Bullion Exchange forward gold opened at Rupees 113-14, highest touched 113-15, lowest 113-13-6 and closed at 113-15.

On Indore Bada Sarafa Association forward silver opened at Rupees 170-14, lowest touched 170-13, highest touched 171-6, and closed at 171-13-6.

## DO NOT OVER-RATE VALUE OF THEORY IN MUSIC

### Artistes Must Shape Taste Of Listeners By Maintaining High Standard

MADRAS, December 23.

DELIVERING the presidential address at the 23rd Annual Conference of the Madras Music Academy held this evening at the Sundareswarar Hall, Mylapore, Vidwan Mudikondan C. Venkatarama Aiyar stressed the importance of 'lakshya' (practice and usage) in the study of music and pointed out that the study of 'lakshana' (theory and grammar) should not be overdone.

Pointing out instances where tradition (sampradaya) was being gradually forgotten, he appealed to the Academy and to fellow Vidwans to establish correct text of 'kriti' and revive respect for tradition.

Mr. P. S. Kumaraswami Raja, Premier, inaugurated the Conference. There was a distinguished gathering of musicians and music-lovers present including a large number of ladies.

Sangita Kalanidhi Rajamanickam Pillai, the outgoing President formally proposed Vidwan Mudikondan Venkatarama Aiyar to preside over the Conference. In doing so, he referred to the keen interest taken by Mr. Venkatarama Aiyar in research work in music. Mr. Venkatarama Aiyar, he added had received his training in the traditional 'gurukula' method and was endowed with great talent in music.

Sangita Kalanidhi Tiger Varadachariar, Maharajapuram Viswanatha Aiyar & Musiri Subramania Aiyar and Professor R. Shrinivasan and Srmat C. Saraswati Bai spoke supporting the proposal.

#### MUSIC THEN AND NOW

Vidwan Mudikondan Venkatarama Aiyar then delivered his presidential address:

After thanking the Academy for the honour done to him by electing him to preside over this year's Conference, Vidwan Venkatarama Aiyar paid a tribute to the useful work done by the Academy in the cause of music and referred in particular to the training of teachers, encouragement of new talent, reviving Bharata Natya, the learned discussions held annually and the opportunity provided to the public to listen to Hindusthani music.

Comparing the music of thirty years ago with what was now prevalent, the President said that a lowering of standard was noticeable along with departure from tradition ('sampradaya') and 'lakshana' (theory). There was a tendency now to over-stress the importance of theory and grammar ('lakshana') to the detriment of practice and usage ('lakshya'). He was of the opinion that 'lakshya' must receive greater attention than 'lakshana'. It was possible that those who had not the natural facilities to demonstrate could delve deep in the science of music and with the help of research widen musical knowledge. But he would remind everyone that 'sangita' was a 'nada vidya' and was an art to be learnt by practice. Who could learn the subtlety of 'gamakas' or the singing of 'raga, tana, pallavi, swara', etc., by the mere theoretical description of what they are? There was no doubt that they could be understood better if they were actually demonstrated by one having a trained voice. He would therefore, urge those in charge of musical institutions not to over-rate the value of theory in musical training.

#### SHAPE THE TASTE

It was true, the President continued, that music had spread out to a large extent among the people now than some years ago. Thanks to the radio, cinema, gramophone and musical institutions the number of those practising music as well as of listeners had greatly multiplied. But one could not say if quality had remained unimpaired. 'Sangita' could not be learnt merely by a course of training. One should have a natural taste for it and this had to be developed by training under a 'guru', by listening, by teaching others and by experience. 'Sangita' was similar to 'pranayama'. A votary of 'nada' singing with concentration to the accompaniment and 'tamboura' sruti would forget himself and commune with the Infinite.

Music was of various kinds—light, heavy, emotional and divine. It was capable of appealing to all types of people. As Vidwan Inayat Khan had said, "Lay people like light music; intellectual people like heavy music; philosophical people like emotional music; spiritual people like divine music". Its appeal was thus universal.

Addressing himself to those training

themselves for concerts, the Vidwan emphasised the need for proficiency in singing in Chowka, Madhyama and Durita 'kala'. They must also respect tradition and be good at both 'lakshya' and 'lakshana'. Music was the language of emotion and like other things might also be degraded. It was therefore the responsibility of practising Vidwans to correctly shape the taste of the listeners by maintaining a high standard.

Continuing, the President said that the art of 'raga alapana' singing of 'tana, pallavi, swara', etc., had definitely deteriorated in recent years. While some of these were disappearing, the others were poorer in standard and lacked method. Those who have not had the advantage of listening to old Vidwans like Ramnad Srinivasa Iyengar, Konerirajapuram Vaidyanatha Aiyar, Palghat Anantaram Bhagavathar, Madura Pushpavanam Aiyar and Bidaram Krishnappa should make it a point to listen to some of those still with us and who had heard and enjoyed the music of those days. Music could come into its own again only with the help of such vidwans who have had a link with the earlier generation. 'Raga alapana', according to tradition, was now practised by some leading Hindustani musicians and some nagaswara vidwans of the South. As 'raga' was the essence of Indian music, the President appealed to vidwans to study the various aspects of 'raga alapana' which would help them to widen their knowledge and imagination. He also stressed the need for singing in the 'mandara sthayi'.

#### STUDY OF SRUTI

The President then referred to a study of 'sruti'. He said that it had been stated clearly by authorities like Bharata, Sarngadeva and others that 22 'srutis' could be identified in an octave ('sthai') making up the seven 'swaras' Sa, ri, ga, ma, pa, dha, ni. 'Sruti' could be defined as Nada which was pleasant to the ear and made up of a fixed but determinable number of sound vibrations. Ahobala had explained in his 'Sangeetha Parijata' the exact places occupied by the various swaras on a vibrating string and the intervals between them. With the advent of modern scientific research, 'sruti' had come for deep study at the hands of men like Pandit Bhattacharya, Mr. Clements, Dr. V. G. Paranjpye in the North and learned research workers in the South. Their conclusions on the sound value of a 'swara' or 'sruti' had differed slightly in some respect. But it should be noted that the basis of their research was the music that was now prevalent. Would it be proper for us to judge the views of Bharata and Sarngadeva who had based their study on the music of those ancient days? The 'sruti' was likely to vary either way in a 'swara sthana' in accordance with the 'sanchara krama'. There was also the question whether the 'vikrti swaras' were handled by Bharata and others in the same way as we do. 'Srutis' might be compared to the steps leading up to a building. The width of each step represented the limits of oscillation of the relevant 'swara' dependent on the 'raga bhava' and the consequent 'gamaka'. In view of the fact that our music was enriched by 'gamakas', any attempt to determine the precise character of a 'sruti' could only be approximate. The sound value of a 'swara sthana' might also vary slightly depending on the practice, skill and imagination of the singer. It would not be correct therefore, to determine 'swara sthanas' from the conclusions of many individual researchers, each necessarily influenced by his own peculiar equipment and experience. Practical musicians of experience should be asked to sing at length and the research worker who had a full knowledge of 'lakshya' and 'lakshana' in addition to modern scientific methods could determine the sound values. It was worth no-

ting that Venkatamakh had given the 'sruti' values only for the 'swaras' of his mela ragas. Earlier authorities had given us raga sthanas only in the form of 'swara krama' but not in 'sruti' values.

The President next pointed out that the present vogue in the singing of 'vikrti swaras' (observed in the 72 mela karta scheme) was to identify 'suddha gandhara' with 'chatusruti rishabha', 'suddha nishada' with 'chatusruti dhaivata', 'shatsruti rishabha' with 'sadharana gandhara' and 'shatsruti dhaivata' with 'kaisiki nishada'. The speaker held a different view. He would request the Vidwans and research workers to determine if it was proper, for example, to equate 'suddha gandhara' or 'srutis' with the 'swara sthana' of 4 'srutis'. While it had been suggested by learned men in the past that 'suddha gandhara' should be produced at the 'chatusra rishabha' fret on the veena, it had not been stated that same 'swarasthana' was to be played. He also appealed to everyone to devise a small handy pitchpipe like instrument which could serve as a standard for 'adhara sruti' (drone). This was necessary as the harmonium had gone out of use and thambura has got into its rightful place.

Referring to musical appreciation in general, the President said that there was a tendency by the public to applaud any type of music with the result that the singer got a licence to sing as he liked and what he liked. The enthusiasm to learn pieces in the traditional way was waning and the practice of changing even the 'data' of 'kriti' and altering or mutilating the 'sangathis' at will was on the increase. There were several versions of one and the same 'kriti' current among the musicians. The President declared that the responsibility of determining the traditional 'pata' of 'kriti' and of resolving the existing confusion rested with the Academy. While determining 'raga lakshanas' it was necessary to enunciate the old and traditional ones instead of trying to fix up a new 'lakshana' to the 'lakshya' now in vogue. He referred in particular to Pantuvarali, Chittaranjani, Dileepakam and Tharangini ragas which in the present day had deviated from tradition. He appealed to the Academy to take up the matter afresh and establish their old and correct 'raga lakshana'. It was possible that 'ragas' had got changed and 'pata' of 'kriti' altered on account of the difficulty experienced by some singers of less than average ability to handle the swaras correctly. 'Ragas' differed in the matter of 'rakti'. It was not proper to acquiesce in the recent departures from tradition on the basis of mere pleasantness to the ear or 'ranjakatwa'. We would be guilty of limiting the scope of 'sangita' which was an ocean in its expanse.

#### ADVENT OF THE MIKE

Addressing students of music, the President stressed the need for undergoing apprenticeship under an experienced singer after a course of schooling is over. 'Tala', he added, had no doubt an important place in music, but it should not by any chance spoil the sweetness or pleasantness of a piece. He mentioned the various features of pallavi-singing and emphasised that in the process of development one must never lose sight of the 'raga bhava'.

Speaking of the use of the mike in concerts, the President felt that its amenity tended to make an audience listen carelessly. He knew how Vidwans in the past had entertained audiences without the help of a mike and how the listeners would listen attentively. This apparatus was also likely to hide the defects of a voice and make it unnatural too.

## News BRIEFS

### WITHDRAW ORDER

The Civil Liberties Conference which was held in Cuttack under the Presidentship of Shree P. R. Das, Barrister of Patna, on December 23, adopted a resolution urging the Government of Orissa to withdraw their order preventing political work among the Adivasis.

### JOURNALISTS' ASSOCIATION

Ela Sen of the 'Hindustan Times' was elected President of the Indian Journalists Association of Great Britain, and Dr. Tarapada Basu, of the 'Hindustan Standard' Secretary Treasurer for the coming year.

## U. S. INVESTMENTS IN BURMA

### McGhee's Terms

RANGOON, Dec. 24 (P.T.I.-Reuter): The United States has been pleased by the cordial relations which Burma maintained with the Commonwealth nations and hoped that these ties could be strengthened to the benefit of all concerned, Mr. George C. McGhee, United States Assistant Secretary of State, told the press here today.

Mr. McGhee, who presided at the recent United States Diplomatic Conference at Istanbul, is returning to Washington via South-East Asia. United States friendship was offered to Burma, Mr. McGhee said.

### U. S. INVESTMENT

"Our only concern is that whatever type of Government or economy Burma may choose it will be freely chosen and that Burma be allowed to work out its own destiny without being overwhelmed by new Communist imperialism which under the guise of Lefalst economic doctrine has engulfed one country after another", McGhee said. American private investment in Burma would depend in a large measure on policies of the Burmese Government and the degree of security and stability which the Government could achieve, Mr. McGhee said.

## UNESCO SEMINAR ON INDIAN CULTURE

### Cultural Sub-Commission's Recommendation

BOMBAY, Saturday.

A recommendation to hold a Seminar on Indian culture during 1950 or 1951 under the auspices of the UNESCO with a view to making the varied aspects of Indian culture known adequately to the world, was made by the Cultural Sub-Commission of the Indian National Commission for Co-operation with UNESCO, which met in Bombay today under the chairmanship of Shri K. M. Munshi.

By another resolution the Sub-Commission stressed the desirability of increasing public interest in art, letters and culture of the country and appealed to the daily Press and periodicals to give sufficient space to the reporting of cultural activities, art and literary criticism.

The meeting was attended among others by Shri B. G. Kler, Premier of Bombay, Dr. Tara Chand, Secretary, Ministry of Education, Mr. Rustom Masani, Shrimati Rukmani Devi, Dr. H. J. Bhabha, Madame Sofia Wadia, Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, Mr. Barda Ukil, Maharaj Nagendra Singh, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Mr. P. N. Kirpal, Secretary, Indian National Commission.

At the outset Shri K. M. Munshi emphasised the need for making the country more conscious of the valuable work being done by UNESCO and the steps being taken to carry out the aims and objectives of this great organisation. Some measures, he added, should be devised to bring together various cultural institutions throughout the country to co-ordinate the UNESCO's work in India. He explained that the Government of India had been a member of the UNESCO since its establishment and the Indian National Commission was formed in the beginning of this year to serve as liaison agency between UNESCO and the institutions concerned with and working for the progress of education, science and culture; and to act in an advisory capacity to the Government of India in matters relating to UNESCO. The National Commission had three Sub-Commissions one each for Education, Science and Culture. The present session of the Cultural Sub-Commission had before it for consideration the programme of UNESCO for 1950 and the steps necessary to implement that programme in India.

The Sub-Commission approved the Code of Policies laid down by the General Conference of UNESCO and the directives mentioned in the programme. The main points on the programme were then considered item by item and several resolutions approving those items were adopted.

## Harmonised Indian Ragas

### Philharmonic Society's Recital

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The Bombay Choral and Philharmonic Society gave a programme of Western classical music and harmonised Indian ragas at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan on the second day of the Cultural festival. Rani Maharaj Singh presided. The Choral and orchestral rendering of "Raghuwadi Raghava Raja Ram" "Gandhi, Ham Se Door Gaya Hain" and "A British Lament" which was homage to Gandhiji was encored and had to be repeated at the request of the audience. The concerto in Indian style in Khams, Palasi and Kedar was an attempt to combine Western harmony and Indian melody. The artists who participated in the exposition showed remarkable skill with their instruments, especially the cellist whose tonal reproduction was superb. The duet between Veena and Cello showed the tonal range of the instruments in the Indo-European combine. The rendering of "Shantini-kan Amader" was probably meant as a tribute to Tagore, who was a pioneer in infusing European harmony in Indian music. Mr. Cecil Mendoza and his musical family have been bold and have struck an original line in this experiment. He has a sensitive ear and cosmopolitan taste, but the odds against the attempt are heavy. The absence of authentic notation in Indian music is a handicap. Moreover there is a strong musical school which believes that notation cannot catch all in Indian music. However, the experiment is refreshingly original and worth watching.

K. A. G.

## Six Indian Ranked Players Eliminated In Second Round

### DILIP BOSE'S EASY VICTORY OVER SPANISH BARTROLI

CALCUTTA, December 24 (PTI).

SIX ranked Indian players were eliminated in the second round in the men's singles in the International Lawn Tennis Championships of Asia today in the third day of the championship, while the four seeded ones moved into the third round. All seeded foreign stars had straight set victories.

Of the twenty-one matches decided this afternoon at Woodburn Park, Calcutta, only one men's singles match and another men's doubles were extended to four sets. K. B. Madan of Calcutta, ranked no. eight in India, took Yugoslavia's no. three, M. Brancovic, to four close sets before yielding to superior and sustained play of the veteran Yugoslav. Young Madan began like a champion to win the first set at 6/4. But in the second set the Yugoslav settled down to some good tennis and raced away with the set at 6/1. He also took the lead in the third set and was ahead 5/3 when Madan retrieved by breaking through Brancovic's service (5/4). He however, lost this set. In the fourth set Brancovic at one stage led Madan 2/0, but Madan brought off some fine strokes inches above the net to the far end of the touchline to level up 2/2. He then showed signs of wear and in the ninth game of the set drove a service from Brancovic over the baseline (6/4).

India's no. One, Dilip Bose, eliminated Spain's no. Two J. Bartrol in easy straight sets, conceding only four games in the first two and none in the third. Bose's strong overhead work and net placements were too good for the Spaniard. While he showed fine anticipation, Bartrol was often caught on the wrong foot. He meets in the next round Britain's no. Two, G. L. Paish, who disposed of India's no. Six, B. R. Kapanipathy in a straight set affair today.

Paish opened confidently winning the first five games in the first set. Kapanipathy then took a service game, but in the next game Paish rounded off the set 6-1. In the second set the Indian took the lead with a service game, Paish levelling up 1/1 with his. Kapanipathy again won three games in a row to lead Paish 4/1, but Paish took the next five sets to lead two sets to love. Now producing some real good tennis with perfect stroker, the British Davis Cup player went into the lead and never loosened up, though Kapanipathy brought off some fine rallies (6-4).

Narendra Nath, India's no. three, got off to a good start with his service game against Philippines no. three, R. Carmona, and led 3-0 in the first set, but Carmona managed to snatch away his second service game after three deuces to reduce the margin 1-3. The Philippine's poor backhand who was exploited at this stage by Narendra Nath. With strong forehand drives and vicious returns, he raced away with the set (6-1) and did not allow his opponent to settle down in the next, which he again took cheaply. In the third set Carmona slightly retrieved his position after trailing 0-3 by taking one service game (1-3). Then Narendra Nath increased the lead 5-1, but Carmona succeeded in breaking through his service and won his next service game to shorten the lead 3-5. With his service Narendra Nath rounded off the set and the match (6-4).

Playing on the centre court again Yugoslavia's no. two, J. Palada, S. Sheshadri (India's no. seven) showed poor backhand and could not match his opponent. The lefthand Yugoslav, a seed, scored mostly with crosscourt baseline shots and registered a straight set win.

Staging a comeback after ten years Mrs. Leela Dayal, a former National

## Baseball On Boxing Day

BOMBAY, Saturday: The ball game to be played on Boxing Day between the American Association of Western India's baseball team and one representing the U.S. Navy comprising men from the S.S. "Valcour", which is now in port, promises to be as thrilling an encounter as the memorable Bombay-Calcutta game recently witnessed in this city.

The Navy men, who have put in some hard practice, are reported in fine fettle.

The Bombay team, which will be captained by John M. Hlavacek, and which will include such top performers as American Consul-General Clare H. "Tim" Timberlake, H. W. "Soup" Cable and Jack Donovan, also have rounded off some hard training and are "rearin' to go".

The game, scheduled to start at 10 a.m. will be played at the Cooperage and the proceeds will be donated to Indian charities.

The price of admission is Re. 1. General D. S. Brar, Commander, Bombay Area, will throw out the first ball in the time-honoured American tradition.

The pre-game festivities will include music played by the R.I.N. band and the presentation of the mascots of the two teams.

champion, put up strong opposition to Argentina's no. one, Mrs. Weiss. Though she had no sting in her service, Mrs. Dayal showed plenty of guts with long rallies. While Mrs. Dayal's overhead work was extremely poor, her opponent brought off some hard smashes. Mrs. Weiss revelled in drives, and lobs, while Mrs. Dayal's mainstay was the baseline. In the vital game of the second set she failed to return an easy service after Mrs. Weiss had faulted once and lost the match in straight sets of 6-3, 6-4.

After travelling over six thousand miles from London V. Cernik, the self-exiled Czech, landed here this morning and disposed of Parkunda of India in easy sets to enter the second round of men's singles. C. Spychala, who had reached Calcutta yesterday, also recorded a straight set win and will oppose Pakistan's no. one, Ifikhar Ahmed, in the next round.

## People IN THE NEWS

M. P. PATIL

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Mr. M. P. Patil, Minister for Agriculture and Forests, left Bombay for Poona this evening. He will return on December 27.

### GOVERNMENT HOUSE NEWS

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Mr. S. B. Modi, Mrs. Rukmini Arundale and Mr. Peter Hoffman came to lunch.

The Governor of Bombay witnessed a performance at the Great Eastern Circus.

Rani Maharaj Singh attended the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's Cultural Festival, where she was received by Mrs. K. M. Munshi.

### Baluchis Demand Special Rights

(From Our Correspondent)

KARACHI, Dec. 24: "Nationals of Baluchistan, wherever they may be scattered in Pakistan be given special rights and privileges in view of their meritorious services in the defence forces of the country", is the gist of a meeting of the Baluchistan nationals resolution adopted here at a mass residing in Karachi.

By this resolution, the Baluchis have further demanded that certain percentage of services be reserved for them in Central as well as provincial administrations and seats be reserved for their representatives on Local Bodies and Municipalities.

### Britain To Recognise Indonesia On Dec. 27

LONDON, Dec. 24, (P.T.I.-Reuter): Britain will grant full 'de jure' recognition to the United States of Indonesia next Tuesday, immediately after the transfer of power from the Netherlands Government due to take place that day, according to usually reliable sources here today.

British recognition of Indonesia was formally requested in a Dutch note presented in London yesterday. It is understood that a formal British reply will be sent during the week-end.

## Stop Press

### SIKHS FAST

LONDON, Dec. 24 (P.T.I.-Reuter): Forty Sikhs began a fast at Bushey, Hertfordshire, tonight. They said they would eat nothing until the body of a murdered fellow Sikh has been burnt in accordance with the custom of their sect and not buried as the police desired.

They are friends of a 21-year-old Gurmikh Singh, a Sikh street trader, who died last Wednesday from a stab wound. Another Sikh, 21-year-old Gurcharan Singh, was next day charged with Gurmikh Singh's murder. Police say the body will be buried so that if any questions should arise at the trial it can be exhumed.

# OUR TABULATED ADLETS

2 ANNAS PER WORD

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### EAST INDIAN RAILWAY NOTICE

**RAILWAY SERVANTS** or contractors or firms now in India, who have pledged Paper Securities for work, supply, etc. with the Financial Adviser and Chief Accounts Officer or General Manager of the old undivided B. A. Railway which remain unreleased so far may send particulars of such Paper Securities to the Senior Accounts Officer, Pre-partition Claims, E. I. Railway, Sealdah. Full particulars of the Paper Securities as well as acknowledgement or Receipts which they hold, location of the work or area of supply against which securities were pledged and the extent of work or supply completed by the 14th August 1947 should also be given.

FINANCIAL ADVISER AND CHIEF ACCOUNTS OFFICER. 6702

### Short Covering in Chicago Wheat Market

**CHICAGO, Dec. 23.** GRAINS: Prices early developed an easier trend under scattered hedges and pre-holiday evening up which encountered a limited commercial demand. Subsequently prices rallied under the leadership of wheat on short covering influenced by an official five-day south-west weather forecast indicating temperatures will average three to five degrees below normal and prospects for little or no snow.

**LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE** LONDON, Dec. 23. (PIT-Reuters): 3-1/2 per cent British consols 270-1/2, 3-1/2 per cent Conversion Loan 1961 238-3/4, 4 per cent Funding Loan 1960/90 2106-7/8, 3-1/2 per cent War Loan on or after Dec. 1, 1952 232-5/8, Chartered Bank of India 210-3/16, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank 294, National Bank of India 233-1/4. Transactions on the London Stock Exchange are placed officially at 2.475.

### LONDON BULLION

LONDON, Dec. 23. LONDON: Silver spot and forward 24 pence, Gold bars fine per ounce 212-2.

## City Markets

### Share Bazar

**BOMBAY, December 24.** The Bombay Stock Exchange was officially closed today. Tata Steel Defds. were nominally quoted at Rs. 1,577/8 to Rs. 1,580 with no business.

### PRODUCE MARKET

**BOMBAY, Dec. 24.** The local produce market was again steady with persistent demand for groundnuts. The market feeling remains bullish and all arrivals are easily absorbed by growing buying. Linseed was also steady and quotations were as under:—

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| GROUNDNUTS—          |         |
| Quality Receipts     | 37 6 0  |
| Bold Ready           | 38 8 0  |
| Bold January         | 36 13 0 |
| Oil Bombay Mills     | 29 12 0 |
| Oil Up-Country Mills | 20 6 0  |
| Oil January          | 20 10 0 |
| Oil February         | 20 13 0 |
| LINSEED—             |         |
| Indore               | 35 10 0 |
| Bold                 | 35 8 0  |
| Feb-Mar.             | 34 10 0 |
| March-April          | 34 2 0  |
| April-May            | 33 10 0 |
| Oil                  | 21 2 0  |
| CASTORSEED—          |         |
| January Delivery     | 23 14 0 |
| Ready                | 23 14 0 |

### INDIAN COTTON PARITY

Indian Cotton May delivery is 1392 cent points below New York May Contract.

### GOLD AND SILVER

**BOMBAY, Dec. 24.** The local bullion market was quietly steady today with restricted business. In the absence of any more development the market was grinding.

Posh delivery Silver opened at Rs. 171 and after improving at Rs. 172-2 declined at Rs. 170-12 and steadied at Rs. 170-14. Ready Silver was quoted at Rs. 170-10. Posh delivery Gold opened at Rs. 113-8 and after improving at Rs. 113-10 steadied at Rs. 113-9. Ready Gold was quoted at Rs. 114 and Sovereigns were placed at Rs. 75-12.

Final quotations were as under:—

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
|              | Rs. as p. |
| Ready Silver | 171 0 0   |
| Posh Del.    | 171 4 0   |
| Ready Gold   | 113 12 0  |
| Posh Del.    | 113 8 0   |

### ALEXANDRIA COTTON

|                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| ALEXANDRIA, December 23. |            |
| KARNAK January           | 75.90 —35  |
| March                    | 76.15 —95  |
| May                      | 76.35 —100 |
| ASHMOUNI February        | 73.90 —140 |
| April                    | 72.80 —130 |
| June                     | 72.00 —90  |

### NEW YORK PEPPER EASY

**NEW YORK, Dec. 23.** Black Pepper: Black pepper was easier with spots offered at 1.28 dollars. It is expected that demand will remain small until inventories have been completed.

Following are today's closing prices: Spot 1.28 sellers, December deltd, January 1.25 nominal, March 1.19 nominal, May 1.18 bid, July 1.18 bid, September 1.18 bid, October 1.16 bid, white pepper spot 2.50 asked.

### LONDON PEPPER MARKET

**LONDON, Dec. 23.** Trading was neglected and prices for Indian were slightly lower in the absence of buyers. Black lampung, December shipment, was still available at 8sh. 7-1/2d. and white muntok and sarawak at 15sh. 9d. per pound shipping weight c.i.f. basis ports. Indicated values for Malabar were 96d for December, 93s for January and 93d for January-March per cwt. c.i.f. unkingdom.

### SINGAPORE PEPPER PRICES

**SINGAPORE, Dec. 23.** Exgodown prices of black lampung and white muntok were both unchanged today with the former quoted at 490 and the latter at 850 dollars per picul. The market continues very quiet.

### N. Y. SILVER SALES

**NEW YORK, Dec. 23.** Silver: Sales reached a surprising preholiday broadened total of 65,000 ounces at unchanged level.

### CHICAGO WHEAT

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| March     | 2.18 3/8 |
| May       | 2.12 1/4 |
| July      | 1.93 3/8 |
| September | 1.95 1/4 |

## WALL STREET MARKET

### Large Blocks Change Hands

**STOCKS:** Apparently ignoring the approaching lengthy holiday Wall Steeters again bid up prices at the opening with some fairly large blocks changing hands in active dealings. Advances, however, were mostly fractional. As the morning session progressed the trading pace slackened somewhat with minings, motors, steels, and utilities holding their initial gains. Rails, oils, aircrafts and chemicals however, developed an irregular appearance. Dealings latterly slackened appreciably as a holiday atmosphere finally prevailed and the market chattered an irregular and indecisive course. Gains and losses mainly held to fractions with a few outstanding performers noted. Canadian Pacific gave up part of its early fractional gains with interest considerably reduced despite a report that the company's application for higher freight rates would be entertained. Some chemicals were among those supported. Prices continued to ease slightly from the best levels although some firm spots appeared here and there. The composite average showed a small gain on day. The session closed irregular.

|                                    |         |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| American Telephone and Telegraph   | 145-1/2 |
| Amerex Holding Co                  | 32-1/4  |
| Anaconda Copper Mining             | 28-1/8  |
| Chase National Bank                | 35-3/8  |
| Firestone Tyre                     | 21-1/8  |
| General Electric                   | 52      |
| General Motors                     | 41-1/4  |
| Ingersoll Rand                     | 70-1/8  |
| International Nickel of Canada "A" | 67-1/4  |
| National City Bank                 | 27      |
| New York Central Railroad          | 44-7/8  |
| Sinclair Corporation               | 10 1/2  |
| Secony Vacuum Oil                  | 18-7/8  |
| Texas Corporation                  | 62      |
| Union Carbide                      | 44-1/2  |
| U. S. Smelting and Refining        | 38-1/4  |
| U. S. Steel Common                 | 26      |
| Western Union "A"                  | 21-3/4  |

The volume of business on Wall

## NEW YORK COTTON

### Improved Buying in New Crop Months

**NEW YORK, Dec. 23.** The opening gains reflected accumulation of trade buying for mill and export account—presumably against a larger turnover of business in Worth Street and improved export sales absorbing moderate hedges. Prices later drifted and assumed a pre-holiday appearance with scattered Commission House profit-taking and evening up before the extended week-end meeting.

### X'mas Holiday

ALL UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES AND CANADIAN MARKETS WILL REMAIN CLOSED ON 24th AND 26th DECEMBER.

routine trade demand. Prices sagged early in the afternoon on light hedge pressure and New Orleans selling centering mainly in near deliveries. Toward the close mill buying again appeared and prices pulled to around the best levels for the day with scattered short covering and light offerings aiding new crops. The session closed steady with sales at 60,000 bales.

### NEW YORK COTON

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| NEW YORK, Dec. 23 |          |
| March             | 30.65+02 |
| May               | 30.42+03 |
| July              | 29.80+06 |
| October           | 28.39+08 |
| December          | 28.28+09 |
| Middling Spot     | 31.41+07 |

### NEW ORLEANS COTTON

|                               |                                             |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 23.         |                                             |
| March                         | 30.59+03                                    |
| May                           | 30.28+05                                    |
| July                          | 29.71+05                                    |
| October                       | 29.22+08                                    |
| Middling Spot                 | 30.30                                       |
| New York Cotton highest March | 30.66 at 14.58 lowest 30.58 at 12-13 hours. |

Street was 1,470,000 shares. The highest and lowest U.S. Steel Trading prices were 26-1/8 and 26 respectively.



Playful hands get dirty...

and where there's dirt there's Danger from germs!



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it protects you from the germs in dirt!

L 106-172

# GOVERNMENT TO INQUIRE INTO SUGAR MUDDLE

## Food Minister's Assurance In Parliament

NEW DELHI, December 24. (PTI).

THE last session of Parliament under the present constitution adjourned 'sine die' today after debating the sugar situation in the country.

When the same House meets again under the new constitution, over a hundred members who now hold double membership of both the Constituent Assembly and Provincial or State Legislatures, will have been replaced.

The sugar debate in Parliament today promised to vie with the Hindu Code Bill in point of public interest, if not excitement. The galleries were full even before the House had assembled while long queues waited patiently for their chance to secure admission.

Parliament referred the "Mines Bill" to a Select Committee today before beginning the debate on the sugar situation.

Mr. Jai Ramdas Daulatram, India's Food and Agriculture Minister, initiating the sugar debate announced that a full enquiry would be made into the recent happenings. "Every aspect of them will be enquired into by a body which will thoroughly satisfy the House," he said.

Exactly how this promise would be implemented would partly depend on the report of the Tariff Board, which would be available after two or three weeks, he added.

Mr. Jai Ramdas invited members to express freely their opinions on the question of decontrol and the future of the Sugar Syndicate and the need of the Central Government having a more direct voice not only in regard to sugar but also in regard to sugar cane.

There were seventeen amendments.

THEY READ:—

MR. AJIT PRASAD JAIN:—"This House looks with grave concern at the unsatisfactory development and growth of the sugar industry in India and its failure to come up to the expectations envisaged at the time of granting protection, thereby causing huge loss to the consumer and the house feels even more concerned at the muddle starting from the middle of July 1949 and causing great hardship upon the consumer and the failure of Government to meet the situation and is of opinion that a Committee should be set up consisting, among others, of the representatives of industry, cane-growers and consumers for the following objects, namely:—

To study and report on the working of the sugar industry, in particular with a view to see when, if even, Indian mills will produce sugar more or less at world competitive prices; to suggest the scheme for reorganization of the sugar industry; to investigate and find out the responsibility for the recent sugar muddle; and to investigate into the working of the Sugar Syndicate and the various Committee's & Board's set up for dealing with the production and distribution of sugar and the co-ordinating machinery between the Centre and the provinces in respect of sugar.

PROF. SHIBBAN LAL SAKSENA:—"The Government do appoint a Committee of five members presided over by a high court judge to hold a public inquiry into the causes of the sudden and rapid deterioration of the sugar situation in the country since July, 1949 and why it could not be checked quickly and to suggest measures to remove the possibility of recurrence of such a situation in future."

LIFT CONTROLS  
MR. MAHAVIR TYAGI:—"This House is of the opinion that with a view to avoid recurrence of crisis in sugar, the Government should take immediate steps for lifting all controls and dissolving the Indian Sugar Syndicate."

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL HIMAT-  
SINGHA:—"Steps be taken to decontrol sugar as early as possible, and to import such quantity of sugar as may be required to keep down the prices."

MR. R. K. SIDHVA:—"The control on sugar be withdrawn and the maximum price be fixed so that consumers may get sugar without difficulty"

## ENQUIRY INTO SUGAR MUDDLE

### Minister's Assurance

Mr. Jai Ramdas Daulatram said that Government welcomed an enquiry into all the recent happenings relating

to sugar. The sugar situation had caused very considerable inconvenience to the public and it was but proper that there should be an enquiry.

Most of the amendments, Mr. Jai Ramdas pointed out, wanted an enquiry into how an apparent or real surplus of sugar was converted into an apparent or real shortage of sugar and all the consequences which followed, resulting in a great deal of suffering to the public.

The suggestions for enquiry covered both the basic and wider aspect of the problems of the sugar industry, how far it deserved protection, its capacity to stand on its own legs and its rationalisation, and the other aspect relating to the happenings of the last few months.

The Tariff Board's report covering both these aspects would be available in two or three weeks and on receipt of that report, Government would decide what further measures would have to be taken to implement their promise of full enquiry. He assured the House that no single aspect of the recent happenings would be allowed to remain unenquired into. They would all be enquired into by a body which would thoroughly satisfy the House.

Mr. Ajit Prasad Jain, welcoming the decision to appoint an Enquiry Committee to investigate "the recent sugar muddle", said that he doubted the figures given by Government that the total consumption of sugar in six months were 9.96 lakhs of tons. It was said that part of sugar might have been smuggled into Pakistan, while the Government tried to explain away the increased consumption of sugar by saying that it was due to increase in population and in the habit of sugar-eating of the people and facilities of transport. His own apprehension was that it was concealed by mill-owners, by traders and wholesale dealers. In order that they might take advantage of rise in prices.

He wanted to know how the Government issued a license for export of 50,000 tons of sugar to Pakistan when the sugar stocks had been depleted to the barest minimum. He thought that the sugar industry got the better of the Government in their effort to create a scarce. Within two months, in July and August "millowners made a profit of Rs. 2 crores and the consumers were fleeced by not less than Rs. 9 crores", he declared.

SHEER APATHY

"The housewives could not sweeten the milk for children, while the government was gadding with the issue by holding conferences and meetings", he added.

Prof. Shibbanlal Saksena said that the Government must have its own agency to obtain figures of the stocks. The Institute of Sugar Technology in Kanpur, he said, should come under the direct control of the Government. This would enable the institute to become independent of the Sugar Syndicate. He was surprised that the Government had given the figures of stocks from the publications of the Syndicate. He argued that there was twelve and a half lakh tons of sugar available in the current sugar season.

UNPATRIOTIC

Acharya Kripalani said that two things came out very clearly from the "muddle of sugar". Firstly, "our capitalists want to make our Government impossible. Whatever protection the nation may have given them, on account of their short-sighted policy and unpatriotic conduct, they are betraying the interests of the country (hear, hear). Capital has always believed in India in the same pattern. There may be honourable capitalists but capital as a whole was determined to betray the country before and is determined to

betray the country now. They forget that they are sitting on a tree and filling their pockets and cutting the roots of the tree.

These people think that they will live while India will not live."

The second thing that stood out clearly, said Acharya Kripalani, was that "our administration is neither efficient nor clever". It had been said that at least thirteen lakh tons of sugar would be available in the market while the utmost annual consumption had been in the neighbourhood of ten lakh tons.

A large number of members favoured de-control and other advocated imports. The Sugar Syndicate came in for bitter criticism.

Among those who participated in the debate were Mr. Ajit Prasad Jain, Prof. Shibbanlal Saksena, Mr. Dip Narayan Sinha, Mr. Tirumala Rao, Mr. Naziruddin Ahmed, Mr. P. D. Himmatsingh, Mr. Mahavir Tyagi, Mr. B. S. Mehta, Mr. O. V. Alagesan, Mr. B. P. Jhunjhunwala, Mr. H. V. Pataskar, Mr. Hussain Imam, Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh, Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava, Mr. Sarangdhar Das, Mr. Krishna Chandra Sharma, Pandit Balkrishna Sharma and Mr. R. K. Sidhwa.

Some of the amendments recommended severe punishment for those responsible for the "muddle".

MINISTER'S REPLY

Mr. Jai Ramdas, replying to the debate said that the centre must have supervising control of the entire sugar industry. Government would go into the whole question of control versus de-control of sugar and then come to a decision. It would be of great help to the Government, he said, if public opinion was so educated that black-marketsters could not thrive.

All amendments were either withdrawn or rejected. Among the two amendments rejected was one by Mr. Naziruddin Ahmed which said that the "sugar situation has not been proper."

## CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS FOR REFUGEES

### Registration To Begin In Saurashtra

RAJKOT, Dec. 24. (P.T.I.): Saurashtra Government have appointed deputy collectors as registering officers in their respective areas with a view to facilitate registration of displaced persons from West Pakistan who have come after the influx from West Pakistan.

This follows the coming into force of Sections 5 to 9 of the Indian constitution regarding citizenship from the date on which the constitution was signed by President providing for the registration of displaced persons as Indian citizens before the new constitution comes into force.

There are about 60,000 such persons in Saurashtra mostly from Sind.

## OLD STUDENTS MEETING

The annual Re-union of Old Students of Santiniketan took place on December 23 under the Presidentship of Shree Nisikanta Sen, former Registrar, Delhi University.

## Preparation For Bacteriological Warfare

### MOSCOW INDICTS TWELVE JAP SOLDIERS

LONDON, Dec. 24. (PTI-Reuters): Moscow radio broadcast early today details of an indictment against 12 former Japanese soldiers, accused of organising special formations for the preparation and execution of bacteriological warfare.

The broadcast did not say where the proceedings—brought under article one of the decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet dated April 19, 1943—were taking place.

The indictment, given in the Moscow radio dictation speed service for newspapers, said "it has been established that the Japanese army in Manchuria possessed a bacteriological department headed by the notorious Lieut. General of the Army Medical Service, Isiya Siro, an apologist of bacteriological warfare. Moscow Radio today alleged that Soviet prisoners of war were used as guinea pigs for experiments by Japanese units in Manchuria which were preparing to launch large-scale bacteriological warfare. It said the Japanese were prepared to release in the rear of their enemies "an immense quantity of cholera and black death bacteria" to be disseminated by means of bombs dropped from aircraft, bacteria shells and agents planted behind the lines.

## COLOMBO MAYOR ON BRIBERY CHARGE

### Found Guilty Of Corrupt Election Practices

COLOMBO, Dec. 23 (PTI-Reuters): Ten members of Colombo's last Municipal Council, including the Mayor Mr. A. P. S. De Mel, were declared guilty of corrupt practices by municipal Bribery Commissioner, Mr. M. W. H. De Silva in a report issued here today.

Five others were found not guilty. The Commissioner held that 11 charges of having given bribes to secure election as mayor had been established against De Mel, and that charges of receiving bribes had been proved against the other 9 councillors. In this week's elections for a new Municipal Council, three of those found guilty were re-elected to the Council consequently there will be at least three by-elections.

## A 'Satee'

SITAPORE, Dec. 23 (PTI): The 18-year old wife of a resident of a village in Sitapore district mounted the burning funeral pyre of her husband and became a "satee", according to a report received here today.

The report says that she neither wept nor showed any sign of grief when her husband expired. She only requested the mourners gathering around the deceased not to touch the body while she recited the Ramayana.

She accompanied her husband's body and when the funeral pyre was prepared she sat on it with her husband's head on her lap in the midst of flames.

## MCNAUGHTON SUBMITS HIS PROPOSALS

### India And Pakistan Study Formula On Kashmir

NEW YORK, Dec. 23. (PTI): General A. G. L. McNaughton, President of the Security Council, has, it is understood, submitted to the Indian and Pakistan delegations certain proposals as a "basis for dealing with" the Kashmir deadlock, cables P.T.I. correspondent.

These proposals are the result of General McNaughton's private talk with the representatives of India and Pakistan, undertaken by him in pursuance of the Security Council's decision of December 17.

It is understood that the Indian and Pakistan delegations have transmitted General McNaughton's formula to their respective Governments for their comments and for further instructions. Both delegations held separate con-

ferences today studying the implications of the proposals, pending receipt of the reactions of their Governments.

It appears to be General McNaughton's intention to iron out any differences, if that is possible, before the next meeting of the Security Council, scheduled for Tuesday December 27.

Meanwhile the formula itself is being kept a close secret in order not to jeopardise chances of an agreement being reached by private negotiation.

## QUESTION HOUR IN PARLIAMENT

## INDIA SUSPENDS SUPPLY OF COAL TO PAKISTAN

## Sequel To Latter's Deliberate Detention Of Our Jute

NEW DELHI, December 24. (PTI). MR. K. C. NEOGY, Commerce Minister, announced in Parliament today India's decision to suspend temporarily despatches of coal to Pakistan.

This had been done, he said, because Pakistan had deliberately detained an enormous quantity of jute purchased and paid for by Indian nationals.

Mr. Neogy said that the Pakistan Government had been informed that as soon as resumption of trade was rendered possible by them, particularly by the release of raw jute, the Government of India would be prepared not only to resume supplies of coal but even to make up the short supply.

Mr. H. V. Kamath in a short notice question asked the Minister of Commerce to state, (A) whether it is a fact that the Pakistan Government have held up a very large quantity of raw jute purchased in Pakistan on behalf of Indian firms and laid on barges and bound for India; if so, how much and when; (B) whether it is a fact that the Pakistan Government have held up a considerable quantity of raw jute in transit from one part of India to another through Pakistan territory; if so, how much, when and where:

(C) The circumstances leading to the hold up in either case; and

(D) Whether Government have taken, or propose to take action in the matter?

Mr. Neogy replied: "I should like to take this opportunity of making a statement explaining in some detail the latest developments in our trade and commercial relations with Pakistan. The House is aware that these have been based on a series of trade agreements, the last of which was entered into in June 1949.

These agreements proceeded on a recognition by both countries of the importance of continuing arrangements regarding the supply by each country of the requirements of the other and to do all that is necessary for the purpose.

Thus, under the 1949 agreement, which is valid for the period July, 1949 to June 1950, Pakistan agreed to make available to India four million bales of raw jute and 450,000 bales of cotton, while India was to make available to Pakistan 150,000 bales of cotton textiles, 80,000 tons of steel and two million tons of coal.

I have mentioned only the principal commodities. I should add in this connection that India is herself an importer of large quantities of steel from the hard currency countries, nevertheless we agreed to supply steel to Pakistan in order to preserve as far as possible the traditional pattern of trade.

## DISCRIMINATION

Soon after the 1949 trade agreement was signed, it became clear that Pakistan was not serious about implementing it. For instance, far from helping the import of cotton textiles from India into Pakistan, they actually took measures to restrict this trade.

It is stated in the agreement that the import of Indian textiles into Pakistan was governed by open general licence. But the Indian textiles were frozen on arrival while textiles from other countries were allowed to be sold freely. Thus there was positive discrimination against Indian textiles—a discrimination which they continued to maintain in spite of representations.

## JUTE

In spite of the difficulties over textiles, India continued to buy jute in the normal way and there were no difficulties to start with. I should explain at this stage that it has always been the custom for Indian buyers to purchase jute through agents whom they finance. As a rule the agents pay for the jute on the spot in Pakistan. In this way as much as 12 lakhs of bales of raw jute had been purchased in Pakistan by the middle of September. Since then, Indian buyers have found it virtually impossible to make fresh purchases of Pakistan jute owing to its high cost. Meanwhile, the movement of jute already purchased began to be interfered with.

These difficulties became more acute after the establishment of the Pakistan Jute Board. This body has not only fixed minimum prices but is also exercising certain checks on exports of raw jute. Under their orders as much as five lakh bales out of the 12 lakh bales purchased by India have been held up in Pakistan.

All this jute is clearly Indian property, having been paid for long before the jute board has been established. A large portion of this jute has been passed by the Pakistan customs; the Pakistan export duty has been paid and the jute has actually been loaded in barges and flats.

The hold up of this jute is thus inexplicable and clearly indefensible. Repeated attempts were made by the Indian buyers and their agents to get this jute released. Claims were made to the Jute Board, both verbally and in writing. The steamer companies produced before the jute board evidence regarding dates of loading.

All this produced no result except admissions in principle by the jute board that the jute which is Indian property would be released. To find out what precisely had to be done to secure the release of this jute, the Indian Jute Mills Association sent a representative to discuss the matter with the board, but his visit proved equally fruitless.

PAKISTAN'S DELAYING TACTICS

Every Offer Of Solution Rejected

It became clearer every day that the formalities regarding proof of transactions were only being used as a pretext to detain the jute. Numerous buyers who were naturally anxious to comply with all necessary formalities individually approached the jute board and other authorities for clarification and advice about the action expected of them, but none of them was given any clear ideas about the precise formalities to be complied with.

The Government of India, therefore, brought these facts to the notice of the Pakistan Government and requested them to release the jute immediately, and to facilitate a quick decision and even went to the length of offering arbitration to settle outstanding claims on either side. But the reply from Pakistan was that the proposal for arbitration was premature, that the reasons for detention of jute had been misrepresented to us that detention of jute was actually a nuisance to Pakistan, and that Indian buyers had failed to take advantage of their simple and easy procedure for making claims. These statements are completely at variance with the facts which I have already stated. The value of the Indian owned jute lying in Pakistan for over three months runs into crores of rupees.

The inference is irresistible that the procedure of any, is really designed to hold up all movements of jute.

OTHER OBSTRUCTIONS

"The detention and obstruction to movement of jute is not confined to Pakistan-grown jute brought by Indian nationals. Such obstruction has of late been extended to Indian jute in transit from Assam through Pakistan to Calcutta. A number of barges and flats loaded with Assam jute are also being held up at various points in Pakistan. To our knowledge there are thirty of them carrying nearly a hundred thousand bales. The detention of Pakistan jute brought by Indian nationals, taken together with the obstruction to the movement of Indian jute in transit through Pakistan can lead only to one conclusion, namely, that Pakistan is deliberately denying jute to Indian jute mills with a view

to exercising economic pressure on the industry. There have been many other cases of hold up of transit goods, particularly of railway stores required for the Assam Railway link.

"To make matters worse, the Pakistan Government, have in some cases called upon the steamer companies to unload the barges in Pakistan, the result of which would be further deterioration of the jute. In any case, detention of these barges immobilising river transport and causing congestion on the river-ways which constitute the main artery of communication between Calcutta and Assam, apart from such action resulting in the infliction of hardship and losses on the steamer companies.

"We had no more than one occasion in the past suggested a customs union or other similar arrangements with Pakistan, but there has been no response whatever. A formal and duly ratified agreement, which had resulted from my personal discussions with the Pakistan Finance Minister in March last, contemplated a conference to be held as soon as possible to find ways and means of relaxing import and export regulations to encourage and expand trade between the two countries. No conference has however yet been held. It has been postponed on some ground or other advanced by the Pakistan government. Meanwhile, we have tried to discharge our obligations under the Trade Agreement.

## SUPPLY SUSPENDED

A telegram was sent to Pakistan on the 20th of this month in which the offer of arbitration was reiterated and Pakistan requested immediately to release all our raw jute. Till yesterday morning we had no reply. We were, therefore, compelled to suspend temporarily despatches of coal to Pakistan from yesterday and we have informed the Pakistan Government accordingly. We have also informed the Pakistan Government that as soon as resumption of trade is rendered possible by them by the release of raw jute, we shall be prepared not only to resume supplies of coal but even to make up the short supplies.

Mr. Neogy was loudly cheered after he made the statement.

## NEW TELEPHONE SCHEME

## Kidwai's Announcement

Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, Minister of Communication, announced in Parliament today a new scheme for telephone connections and said "in certain industrial cities, the new telephone connections will be given only if the subscriber pays down what is estimated as the total capital cost of a telephone connection".

The industrial cities to which the new scheme will apply will include, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Delhi, Kanpur, Ahmedabad and Amritsar. Amount to be paid down will be Rs. 2,500 at Calcutta and Bombay and Rs. 2,000 at other places.

The Minister said that on payment of this amount the subscriber would be provided with a telephone connection.

Bona fide transfers would be allowed but, in the case of closure, Government would have the right to take back the connection and refund a proportionate amount. The subscriber would pay for the service at the usual rate for messages, but would not pay any rent as he had paid for the cost of the equipment. A maintenance charge of Rs. 2 per month would be charged.

Public institutions, persons of medical profession, public men and deserving refugees who are on the priority list will have the option to get the telephone on the existing rates.

The progress of the expansion schemes in Calcutta and Bombay and other cities, said Mr. Kidwai, would depend upon the money the Government were thus able to raise in these cities. The new scheme would be available to existing subscribers also at their option.

The call fee under the new scheme would be ten calls to the rupee with a rebate of 6-1/4 per cent for prompt payment in Bombay and Calcutta and twelve calls for the rupee with a similar rebate in other cities. The scheme would be given effect to forthwith.

Pending finalization of a proper form of contract, deposits covering the full amounts would be received, stated

## LABOUR PROBLEMS IN ASIA

## ILO Body To Discuss At Mysore

BANGALORE, Dec. 24 (PTI): Labour problems in India and Asia will be spotlighted during the next fortnight when the Governing Body of the I.L.O. meets in Mysore City preceded by the Indian Labour Ministers Conference.

Mr. Jagjivan Ram, India's Minister for Labour, will preside over a conference of all provincial and States' Labour Ministers in India to be held on December 26 and 27. While generally considering the labour policy, the Conference will pay special attention to the steps for implementation of the Minimum Wages Act, the future of the employment exchanges and training schemes and the progress of enquiry now being conducted on agricultural labour.

The meetings connected with I.L.O. Governing Body begins on December 29 and will continue till January 3 when the Plenary Session of the Governing Body commences.

This is the first time that a regular meeting of the I.L.O. is held in Asia.

The meeting will be attended by 32 members, besides observers sent by international organisations like the Economic and Social Council, World Health Organisation, Food and Agricultural Organisation, the UNFSCO, the World Federation of Trade Unions, American Federation of Labour and Federation of Christian Trade Unions. The Chairman of the Governing Body is an Indian Mr. S. Lal, Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Labour.

## TRIED TO COMMIT SUICIDE: ARRESTED

(From Our Correspondent) AHMEDABAD, Dec. 24. Sensational news have come out that Babubhai Ramanlal Shah, Agent of Branch of Baroda Bank in Panch Kuvla locality attempted to commit suicide by threading himself in a well. It is stated that he was shocked by the sudden disappearance of cash of Rs. 20,000 from the bank. Police has filed complaint against him for attempt of suicide.

## Wanted Man Arrested

(From Our Correspondent) AHMEDABAD, Dec. 24. Ahmedabad police has arrested one Yakub Mohamed Nurmoamed from the aerodrome. On inquiry it is learnt that Yakub Mohamed Nurmoamed has committed theft of about two thousand dynamites from Abu Road Station, booked for Indian Army. He had escaped to Pakistan and Ahmedabad police was searching for him since long. He was arrested yesterday.

ment being made in the order of receipts of the deposit.

It was only where the department had got no funds for the purchase of the equipment and had invited the subscriber to contribute the cost, that the new scheme would be enforced.

## JUSTIFICATION

In justification of the new scheme, the minister said that because of lack of funds the choice before the department was either to confine expansion schemes to Calcutta, Bombay and Madras or to abandon the schemes and continue the schemes for other areas. It was a difficult choice and a suggestion was made that in industrial towns people would be willing to pay for the equipment and that there should be no hesitation to extend telephone facilities to those who were prepared to pay. The proposal had been accepted. If the Government had confined the expansion to the limit of the funds made available, the Government had to slow down considerably the progress of the telephone factory and to retrench 35 per cent of the workers in the three workshops.

The Government of India will shortly publish a white paper dealing with Indo-Pakistan trade and the trade relations between the two Dominions, the Commerce Minister, Mr. K. C. Neogy said.

# Shackles On Press Must Go

THE growth in the number and strength of the Newspaper Press in India is one of the most significant facts of the last hundred years. It has supplanted Government for the ascertainment and propagation of authentic news; and its statistical summaries are even preferred to official reports by the commercial world. It is also increasingly becoming the medium through which new thoughts pass into common currency. The relation of this new organ with the other and executive organ of public opinion, namely Government, has been the subject of considerable discussion and not a little controversy. The true position was put in the plainest language by the London "Times" nearly a hundred years ago when it wrote:

"The purpose and duties (of the Press and the Government) are constantly separate, generally independent, sometimes diametrically opposite. To perform its duties with entire independence and consequently with the utmost public advantage, the Press can enter into no close or binding alliances with the statesmen of the day, nor can it surrender its permanent interest to the ephemeral power of any Government."

Governments nevertheless are always lured by an organ of opinion they can neither influence nor control. We have had in India a disastrously long innings of the State in legislating for the Press. Their enactments had not brought one-half the good their authors expected, nor appreciably diminished the evils they pretended it was their aim to prevent. Yet, underdressed by their example, the successor popular government of today have chosen to follow the beaten path and added to the Draconian legislation on the statute book.

The passion for legislation often breaks out in epidemic form. Non-official publicists have now and then taken a hand in the good task of streamlining and regulating the Press. In February 1940, Lalchand Navalrai, a Sind Member, brought in a bill in the old Central Assembly to prescribe the educational and moral qualifications for editors of newspapers and keepers of printing presses. He confessed a desire to improve the tone of the press—a hackneyed phrase—and to have "better material to edit the newspapers"—a phrase he did not condescend to elucidate.

The obvious "tu quoque" about the qualifications for amateur legislators was expressed by the veteran N. M. Joshi. The then Home Member, Sir Reginald Maxwell, was not without excuse in pouring easy ridicule on the jejune provisions of the bill. What is moral turpitude and what is the connection between it and the matriculation examination and the level of culture? In any case, Sir Reginald had sterner ways of dealing with the Press and had no use for a Press which will not make itself the door-mat for Government. A solitary vote in favour of the bill was cast by Bhai Paramanand.

## Sidhwa's Bill

After nearly a decade comes along another member from the same province almost similarly bent. Mr. R. K. Sidhwa wants to "curb the monopolistic tendencies in the control and management of the Press." Known as the Council of the Press of India Bill 1949 the bill wants to set up a Council of the Press of India.

We read: "In recent years newspapers and periodicals in the country are coming into the hands of, or under the influence of a particular class of people. Independent newspapers are bought by rich businessmen, owning newspapers in different towns. They dictate their own policy. It is desirable to put an end to such anti-social tendencies and to improve the present lot of those who have entered the profession." And all a Council consisting of 20 members this is to be contrived by setting up a Council consisting of 20 members, six from proprietors, nine from editors, journalists and subordinate staff, four members of Parliament and two others.

Here again the matter was once raised in the old Assembly. Some four years ago Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru warned the Editors' Conference at Allahabad against the menace of newspaper combines. And he stated after he became Prime Minister in 1947 that "the tendency in this country for newspapers and news agencies to develop as trusts and combines has been a dangerous one."

In March, 1946, however, Mr. Chapman Mortimer put a question in the Assembly. The Home Member replied that he would be prepared to examine the law, if developments rendered it necessary. What Mr.

## SIDHWA'S BILL WILL RETARD PROGRESS OF NEWSPAPERS

IN this article, Gautama, an eminent journalist discusses the Bill sponsored by R. K. Sidhwa, M. L. A. on Regulating the Press in India and its merits.

Mortimer wanted was not very clear. More recently, perhaps fired by the British example, the Press Association of Delhi at a meeting on March 22, 1949, requested the Prime Minister to constitute a Commission to investigate the ownership of India's newspapers. That Commission was never constituted. Hence we cannot be sure whether the horripilatory gestures about chain newspapers and

ed for newspaper combinations "greater efficiency, increased production with less waste, a higher grade of product and at less cost."

In India this question of mergers and chains is of quite recent growth and almost of negligible importance today. I have been the result mainly of outside influence, which brought an extraordinary change in readers' demands, the advertisers' clamour cry

## VISHINSKY GOES TO THE OPERA



United Nations President Carlos P. Romulo took several delegates to the New York Metropolitan Opera house to see "Manon Lescaut" Romulo is seen here pointing out some interesting items of the opera to Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Y. Vishinsky. Standing right next to Romulo is the Czech Foreign Minister Vladimir Clementis.

monopolistic practices in India have any basis in fact.

All that we have at present to go on is that some three individuals between then control in five cities about 16 newspapers.

One may readily agree that regimentation of views and news is bad. But at the same time, is it doubtful if the fulminations against chains should blind us to the dangers of allowing the ugly thumb of authority to intervene and regiment the Press.

## No Menace

This chain development is an international problem. Equally, each country is faced with it in diverse manner. Col. Frank Knox, who had been general manager of the largest group of personally-owned newspapers in the world, saw no menace in the chain.

Indeed, addressing the 7th annual meeting of the American Society of Newspaper Editors in 1929, he claimed

for better returns and the economies of newspaper production. Wages, material and equipment in the years following the war—and indeed for some time anterior thereto—had greatly increased. Without enormous capital a modern newspaper was difficult of production. The modern reader even in India demands services of a kind which many ageing veterans never thought of as included in journalism. Factor for factor, in its content, its display, its features, including advertisements, newspaper quality was never so high as today. And it sells at an infinitesimal fraction of the cost of turning out. If chains and cartelisation have come in, the evils are no worse than in other countries. It should be a salutary thought after all that, as seen in Attlee's victory and Truman's election, chains and million circulations do exert no deleterious influence on the public mind.

As for standardisation of news and views is the chain a greater menace than almost exclusive dependence on a single news agency?

By  
GAUTAMA

The Royal Commission on the Press devote thirty pages to the growth of chains in England and the present degree of concentration of ownership. The careful student is left to conclude that it is possible to exaggerate the anti-social influence of chains. We are a nation of illiterate people, now slowly being swept into the circle of literacy; our country is larger than either America or the United Kingdom and we can afford and indeed ought to have many more chains than the sixteen newspapers owned by three individuals. More chains, more newspapers, healthy rivalry and competition among them, the organisation of the profession on better lines which is sure to follow therefrom and an educated public—these are the vital needs today.

Since as already shown, newspapers are highly capitalised ventures, it would be wrong indeed to discourage the growth of chains, which seems at present the only way to have more newspapers.

## Indian Editors' Move

Mr. Sidhwa's Council and the manner in which he proposes to constitute it are hardly calculated to help forward his aims. The Royal Commission also recommended a General Council. The Editors' Conference in this country at its Bombay Session toyed with the idea. And at the moment a sub-committee is at work drafting a professional code. Presumably statutory permission will thereafter be sought to form a Council on the model of the Medical Council, the Bar Council etc. Here we should recall the reservations made by Sir George Waters, one of the Commissioners and for 20 years editor of the "Scotsman." He did not agree that the proposed Council would be strengthened by the inclusion of lay members, apart from an independent chairman. He further stated that "the Council would be given a better start and would realise more fully what is expected of it, if the responsibility for order, decency and progress within the Press were left to the sense of honour and duty of those who own and conduct it and constitute its editorial staff." Judged by this test, Mr. Sidhwa's Council stands condemned. Why there should be four members of Parliament and two others—the word is imprecise—on the Council is not clear.

In the final analysis the public, that artless judge, is the best judge alike of the pretensions and the usefulness of the Press. Any interference whether by Government or by the imposition of a "closed shop" by certain dominating groups in the Press will constitute a serious inroad on the Freedom of the Press. The vastness of our country and the multiplicity of languages may well raise doubts if a single Council will do. There are now two bodies concerned with the Newspaper Press. One is the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society—mostly of proprietors.

## Reform

Then there is the All-India Editors' Conference. It is a wartime baby, which so far has not had the time to attend to organisational matters. It hardly represents more than a fraction of the periodical press, which numbers about 2,500. Lately, there has been a move to restrict membership by raising the qualifying subscription. A Council of Journalism should be based on as wide a franchise as possible. Every individual journalist, with a minimum qualifying service in the profession for a stated number of years, ought to be brought on the register. Regional Councils as well as the General Council ought to be directly elected by this electorate. There should be a rule prohibiting members offering themselves for re-election more than twice or thrice. The present tendency whereby all elective offices become preys to cliques should be discouraged. Such an independent body may perhaps do something to elevate the standards of journalism and improve the material prospects of the journalist. The best and wisest course is of

(Continued On Page 26)

## OUR DELHI LETTER

## From Our Correspondent

## SPORTS JOTTINGS

## TRACTOR ORGANISATION MUDDLE

THE Agriculture Ministry loomed large during the week in the Union Parliament.

Lala Dushbandu Gupta did a great service to the country in general and to the Grow More Food in particular by exposing the mishandling by the Ministry of its twins, namely the tractor and groundwater organisations.

Incidentally, the replies given by Shri Jaramdas Daulatram confirmed the reports published in these weekly letters.

"The American Armed Forces that had come to India during the last war had brought with them a great deal of mechanical equipment which became available for civil use after the war. Thus a large number of pumps of all sizes and categories as well as heavy construction equipment comprising tractors fitted with bulldozers, graders and scrapers were found to be available."

This is from the history of the Central Tractor Organisation, published by the Ministry of Agriculture. In the beginning there was the American Army. The tractors were with the American Army. The tractors became an organisation in this history. After detailing the cost of organisation in three years ending March 31, 1949 a striking sum of Rs. 144,63,806 — the history makes the following observations:—

"For the first time in our large-scale mechanical land reclamation has been undertaken and proved a practical proposition. Indian technicians and Indian Labour proved equal to the task of taking over the equipment more or less unknown in this country and successfully mastered the technique involved in the tractor rehabilitation and utilization. In these lie the germs of hope that rationalisation of our agriculture by the judicious balancing of bullock or animal power with mechanical power or tractor is a possibility that need not be considered doubtful."

## Blind Leads Blind

Certainly not, so long a blind man leads a blind one.

Apart from the untold story of Govindnagar in Ganga Khadar in the United Provinces where tractors, according to reports were used to uproot the giant 'sambal' trees, the mechanically cleared land, according to other reports, is slowly relapsing into grass cultivate in several parts of this country. The story of tractor operation, as unfolded by the Agriculture Minister is a tale of breakdowns, of late arrivals of tractors and lack of their spare parts and of unfavourable seasonal conditions. It reads like the story of Grow More Food campaign, in which case the total yield according to one estimate was increased by 727,731 tons and according to another estimate the yield of rice decreased by 3.7 p.c. lower by 19.8 p.c. baiza by 18.7 p.c., maize by 17.2 p.c., ragi by 6.8 p.c. and barley by 13.0 p.c. only wheat showed an increase of 0.5 p.c. grain of 1.3 p.c.

So also with tractors. The total acreage of land ploughed by tractors during last year was 7,71,64 acres which fell short of target fixed in every Province and State.

In reply to another question in Parliament the Agriculture Minister disclosed that the area under tractor cultivation in 1949-50 was 817,957 acres, the target being 378,100 acres. It is calculated that if all the 933 tractors had been at work, the average would have been 249 acres for each tractor in 365 days or less than one acre per tractor per day. This is less than the output of the ordinary bullock plough.

The cost of ploughing by tractors has been worked out at Rs. 75 per acre. It is for the Agriculture Ministry to decide whether India can afford mechanical cultivation at Rs. 75 an acre.

It is highly doubtful, if Lala Dushbandu's criticism of the soundness of the Central Tractor Organisation or the groundwater Organisation would have any effect.

India is now added to the policy of food self-sufficiency by March 1951 at any cost and at any body's cost.

The following from the Ministry of

Agriculture should be read with some interest:—

"This Ministry had proposed a grant of Rs. 29,19,900 for the year 1949-50 under Demand No. 17—Ministry Proper, but the Ministry of Finance made a peremptory cut amounting to Rs. 4,28,900 in anticipation of the acceptance of the recommendations of the Economy Committee and agreed to a grant of Rs. 24,91,000 only. Efforts were made to keep the expenditure under this Demand within the sanctioned grant but due to additional posts having been sanctioned after April 1, 1949, for Grow More Food work and other purposes and the unforeseen necessity of meeting the expenditure on account of Vegetable Oil Products Controller and Deputy Director, Movements, from this Demand, this could not be done.

"The need for booking the expenditure of these two Attached Offices under this Demand arose out of the fact that though the budget estimates of the Offices of Vegetable Oil Products Controller and Deputy Director, Movements for the current financial year were submitted to the Ministry of Finance and were actually approved by them in time, no provision could be made in the budget as fair copies of the approved New Items Statement did not reach that Ministry in time for inclusion in the budget.

"From the revised estimates of the expenditure under Demand No. 17 now prepared, it has been found that this Ministry will not be in a position to restrict the expenditure to the gross amount of Rs. 24,91,000 which the sanctioned budget estimate for 1949-50. Surrender of amounts under this grant on account of the prescribed percentage cuts under Pay, Contingencies etc. will not, therefore, arise."

THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THIS MINISTRY FOR 1948-49 IS RS. 4,04,00,000. ACCORDING TO TEN PERCENT REDUCTION YARSTICK IT SHOULD BE REDUCED BY 40,40,000 IN 1950/51. THE MINISTRY HAS PUT UP PROPOSALS, INCREASING THE BUDGET RS. 67,00,000.

## Oilseeds Issue

I referred last week to the Vanaspathi industry and its effect on the oil-pressing industry. The Agriculture Ministry told the Union Parliament during the week that about 25 percent of the oilseeds produced in India were taken up by the Vanaspathi industry. He also disclosed that there were about 600 oil-mills in India with the crushing capacity of 2,773,000 tons a year. The total quantity of oilseeds crushed by village Ghanis is placed at 6,63,000 tons a year.

Roughly speaking the oil-mills were working upto 50 per cent of their capacity and the village Ghanis upto 2/3rds of their capacity. "PRIMA FACIE", one-third of village Ghanis were already thrown out of use. It is difficult to assess the exact repercussion of this closing down of village Ghanis on the village economy.

The Agriculture Minister also disclosed that the production of oilseeds had declined from 5,148,000 tons in 1947/48 to 4,702,000 tons in 1948/49. The comparative prices for the two years were as under:—

|                  | 1947/48 | 1948/49 |
|------------------|---------|---------|
| per Mds.         |         |         |
| Rs. a p.         |         |         |
| Groundnut        | 17 12 3 | 25 9 3  |
| Linseed          | 19 4 6  | 25 2 0  |
| Rape and Mustard |         |         |
| seed             | 18 10 2 | 35 0 0  |
| Castorseed       | 18 1 10 | 17 2 9  |
| Sesaman          | 28 5 2  | 30 2 0  |

It will be thus seen, with the exception of castorseed there was an all-round increase in prices of oilseeds. Inspite of this rise in prices, the production of oilseeds in India declined by 446,000 tons.

It is generally admitted that the cultivator knows his own interests and a rise in prices should have induced him to grow more oilseeds than he did 'Prima facie', again, there must be factors, which neutralized the advantages of increase in prices for the cultivator.

The Agriculture Minister also disclosed that India exported 2,300 tons of oils and 9,100 tons of seed to Hard Currency Areas and 5,57,000 tons of oils and 9,33,000 tons of seeds to Soft Currency areas in 1948-49. The targets for exports for 1949-50 to Hard

Currency areas are 1,700 tons of oils and 1,61,000 tons seeds and to Soft Currency areas, 1,66,000 tons of oils and 67,000 of seeds. It will be thus seen that production of oils and oilseeds not only affects the village economy but also this country's exchange-earning capacity.

The Prime Minister is setting up a Planning Commission. It will be of interest to see if this Commission examines the whole issue of Vanaspathi in relation to village economy and India's exchange-earnings.

## Supplementary Demands

The Union Parliament passed demands for supplementary grants amounting to Rs. 88,24,05,000.

Their break up is as follows:—

|                                     | Rs.         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Customs                             | 2,56,85,000 |
| Central Excise Duties               | 39,50,000   |
| Constitutional Assembly             | 1,16,30,000 |
| Department of Parliamentary Affairs | 50,000      |
| Ministry of External Affairs        | 2,12,000    |
| Ministry of Works, Mines and Power  | 84,000      |
| Audit                               | 29,76,000   |
| Ports and Pilotage                  | 7,00,000    |
| Tribal Areas                        | 4,36,000    |
| External Affairs                    | 40,83,000   |
| Civil Works                         | 29,55,000   |
| Miscellaneous                       | 1,000       |
| Expenditure on Refugees             | 3,25,00,000 |
| Andaman and Nicobar                 |             |
| Islands                             | 1,53,000    |
| Relations with Indian States        | 16,26,000   |
|                                     | 87,041,000  |

## EXPENDITURE MET FROM CAPITAL

Capital Outlay on Currency 79,12,53,000  
Delhi Capital Outlay 41,13,000  
This, however does not disclose the whole story.

## Defence Budget

Unless the 10 per cent cut in contingencies and 5 per cent cut in the pay-bill have bridged the gap, the Defence Budget had exceeded the Budget by 25 crores.

The Finance Minister in his devaluation speech through his economy drive had envisaged a saving of Rs. 40 crores in the current budget. In the absence of this economy drive, the demands for the supplementary grants might have been 128 crores of rupees.

There is yet another aspect of this question. The finance Minister had budgeted for surplus of Rs. 49 lakhs last March.

On the assumption that devaluation and the revised import policy would not materially affect India's Customs yield, the supplementary grants should create a deficiency gap, at least to the extent of Rs. 88 crores.

One inescapable conclusion, that could be drawn is that India is living on her own fat and that every month this fat is decreasing rapidly. It may last till March 31, 1951. What will happen after 1951 could only be a subject of speculation. A new legislature is envisaged by 1951. That Congress will return to office in 1951 appears to be a certainty. Will it be wise for the present Government to hand over an empty chest to its successors?

(Continued From Page 9)

down-hearted by our repeated failing stones to success if only we profit by their experience. It is high time we take a stock of the past and plan wisely for the future. The success is bound to come sooner than later.

## DISGRACEFUL BEHAVIOUR

It must be a matter of great satisfaction to the Cricket rulers of Bombay and India — and especially to the C.C.I. — that the public enthusiasm for the Test match knew no bounds. The packed to overflowing every day — so much so that on Sunday morning many people were crushed to pulp at the entrance gates on the north side. Even journalists did not escape their share of the pommeling! I am told that black-marketeers had a good time in their bargain for tickets.

I cannot however applaud the behaviour of the spectators especially in the East stands. Not only did they behave as rabble, but made themselves conspicuous by throwing all kinds of dirt and refuse in the playing arena. I wonder where they learned their tricks! They are a disgrace to the sporting field. Unfortunately they are not aware of it themselves. Will somebody take the trouble of enlightening them about the ethics of sport and good behaviour?

## OFFICIAL SCORE-CARDS WIZARDRY

By the way, have you seen the wizardry perpetrated by the compiler of the Official Score-Card? Can you beat the transformation of these scores as were shown on the card on the last day of the Test? The players concerned are aghast at this jugglery by this official. Here is the amazing feat. Compare the scores with the Bomoay Chronicle figures:—

## THE COMMONWEALTH XI

## FIRST INNINGS RUNS

|                                                          |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. L. L. Livingston (Capt.) (Australia) c Phadkar b Modi | 5   |
| c Modi b Phadkar                                         | 12  |
| 2. Ray Smith (Essex) c Merchant b Phadkar                | 11  |
| 3. W. Alley (N.S.W.) (Not out)                           | 3   |
| 4. H. Lambert (Victoria) c & b Hazare                    | 132 |
| 5. F. W. Freer (Australia) c Mantri b V. Mankad          | 72  |
| 6. J. Pettiford (NSW) lbw Hazare                         | 5   |
| 7. Geo. Tribe (Australia) lbw Modi                       | 9   |
| 8. W. Place (England) b Modi                             | 0   |
| 9. J. K. Holt (West Indies) Std. Mantri b Umrigar        | 78  |
| 10. P. Worrell (West Indies) b Phadkar                   | 110 |
| 11. N. Oldfield (England) Extras                         | 11  |
| 12. W. Langdon (W. Australia)                            |     |
| TOTAL                                                    | 448 |

Lambert and Worrell are trying to find out when they scored the centuries registered against their names. And Holt wants to know how his blob was converted in to 78! Freer and Pettiford are still wondering where their respective figures have disappeared.

## A MERRY CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS is an occasion for mirth and merry-making. During this happy interlude you have also a gift problem. Gift to your friends and family.

Here is a tip for you: Present a packet of

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(Prop: Seth Motumal Shewaram)

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# IRAN RIDES EAST WEST WAVES

## Shah Visits U.S. But Keeps Cordial Relations With Soviet

By Leonard Herman

SIX months ago, Persia walked alone. She was guided in her foreign relations by an astute policy, designed at once to keep her free from undesirable entanglements and to maintain her independence and sovereignty.

During the past few weeks however, there have been signs of a change in this attitude. There has been a new deal and Persia no longer plays skillfully from weakness but calmly from a growing strength with not only an ace or two in hand but some high cards up her sleeves as well. Iran has moved closer to the West and closer to the Eastern and Western neighbours.

The change may be attributed partly to political circumstances in the world as a whole and in the Middle East in particular and partly to the increasing influence upon affairs of Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, the clear headed and energetic young Shah.

The main topic of discussion in Tehran and in the Persian Press is the Shah's visit to the United States.

### From Doubt To Decision

At first there was a mixed reception to the announcement of this visit. Many Persians feared that its sole result would be to alienate Soviet Russia still further. Others considered that the internal situation in Persia made it inadvisable for the Shah to leave the country at the present time. When Mr. Hazihi, the Minister of Court and former Prime Minister, was assassinated there were influential voices which strongly advised His Imperial Majesty to stay at home to exercise a steady influence upon what they considered to be a deteriorating situation. Labour difficulties, particularly in Isfahan, where many factories have been closed, served to swell the number of pessimists who advised against the visit. They were joined by those who considered it unwise for the Shah to leave the country when there was no Parliament and when the Majlis (lower house) elections in Tehran and Tabriz had been declared null and void. Nevertheless when it was seen that the Shah and his advisers were determined on the journey, pessimism gradually dwindled and the chorus of approval from press and public rose.

The visit is the climax of the movement towards closer friendship between the two countries which has grown ever stronger since 1941. American influence is welcomed in Persia as providing the necessary counterweight of a third great power to the historic rivalry in the country between Russia and Great Britain.

The event which has caused the greatest interest in Persia is the Shah's disclosure in New York that a loan of 35 million dollars has been obtained from the International Bank

to help finance the Seven-Year Plan. The debt will be met from the revenues derived from the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company.

### Benefits Of Visit

The feeling in the capital is that the Shah's visit will not only strengthen Persia's hand in the Middle East and Asia generally and vis a vis Russia in particular but will also provide concrete advantages in the shape of increased military aid, both in the form of arms and as a result of the staff talks which have been held by the Shah and his advisers in Washington. In the economic sphere, hopes of American and British investment in Persia are rising.

The welcome given to the Shah, his response to that welcome, and his general bearing in the United States have further enhanced his popularity among his people. Meanwhile, the activities of the United States Military and Gendarmic Missions and of the American Advisers to the Seven-Year Plan of Organisation, continue on their unspectacular but effective way.

Some Persians view with apprehension the re-action of Soviet Russia to the Shah's visit to America.

### Soviet Diatribes

The Soviets have made no official move but their unofficial agencies have been extremely active. The secret Radio Station in Russian Azerbaijan broadcasts daily diatribes against His Imperial Majesty and the Persian "ruling classes", alleging that the Shah has gone to America to sign a secret military and economic treaty which will "sell the soul of Persia to the Capitalist West."

Clandestine issues of Communist "Mardum" are also fulminating against the growing rapprochement between Persia and the West.

Persia's recent dealings with Russia have been very much those of one great power towards another. Persians have noted with pleasure the Shah's remark in the United States that "as to our relations with the Soviet Government, these have improved at least from the commercial point of view. The fact that the Soviet Government agreed to sell 100,000 tons of wheat to Persia for cash, was evidence of this improvement. I believe that Soviet-Persian political relations will improve with the general improvement in international relations."

A sidelight on the question of Persian trade with Russia is that the U.S.S.R. recently sold wheat and cement—not to the Persian Government but to Persian merchants in private business.

### Bold Hand

Persia's determination to stand up to Soviet Russia has been apparent



ever since she appealed to the United Nations and secured the withdrawal of Russian troops from her territory. She showed it again in 1947 when the Majlis rejected the Qavam-Sadchikov Agreement on her northern oil resources.

Recent evidence of this determination has been seen in the insistent demands or the return of the 11 tons of fine gold and the 8,600,000 dollars taken from the National Bank during the war "for safe keeping", in the equally insistent demands for a fair deal and adequate Persian representation on the management of the Soviet-Persian Caspian Fisheries Company, in the stern attitude adopted by the Persian Foreign Minister Mr. Ali Ashgar Hikmat on the question of the recurring frontier incidents and on the dispute between the two countries about reciprocal consular representation.

This last is a long-standing problem, and the final result of a series of proposals and counter-proposals has been that Persia has insisted on closing the 11 Soviet consulates in her territory. Before 1941, the Soviets had been content with a small consular representation but with the entry of the Allies into Persia, she felt that her interests demanded fuller representation. Persia agreed, subject to the recognition of her right to retain an equal number of consulates in Soviet Russia in so far as the military situation permitted.

### Consulates Closed

In July last year, the Iranian Government sent a note to the Soviet Ambassador in Tehran, requesting that, as hostilities were over, the principle of consular reciprocity should be implemented. As no action was taken, this note was followed by two others, the last of which, sent in May 1949, stated that as the Soviet Government had not seen fit to put into execution the agreement laid down in the 1941 exchange of letters Persia demanded the closing down of all Soviet Consulates in Persia, except that at Bandar Pahlavi on the shores of the Caspian Sea. The Soviet Ambassador replied by ordering the closing down of all Russian consulates in Persia and by demanding the closing of the one Persian consulate on Russian soil at Baku.

On May 20th, this year, the Persian Government informed the Embassy of the U.S.S.R. in Tehran that "the Imperial Government has taken the necessary steps to close her consulate at Baku."

There the matter rests. But it is considered in Tehran that relations between Persia and the Soviet Union have slightly improved during the past six months.

Although the Soviet Ambassador, Mr. Sadchikov, is still absent from Tehran, the Charge d'Affaires appears to be carrying on with affability. His presence was noted at the Saloon

on the Shah's birthday this summer and he was at Mehrabad aerodrome, together with his military attache and two Tass correspondents—a most unusual occurrence here—to see the Shah off to the United States. The Shah spent some moments in conversation with him and he saluted His Imperial Majesty with an especially deep bow.

Persia's relations with other countries in Asia and the Middle East have become very much closer of late.

"Persia is not an Arab country" said her Foreign Minister recently but remarked that his government was not averse to an Arab Union and would consider her position in the light of the future development of Muslim integration.

It must be remembered that religion does not bind Persia so closely to other Muslim countries as might be expected. For over four hundred years, she has been the home of the Shia sect, with but limited sympathies for the Sunnis, who are predominant throughout the Middle East, except in Iraq and parts of Morocco. Persian economic, political and cultural circles view with interest the increasing cordiality of the entente between their country and both India and Pakistan. With both countries she has ties of race, culture and language and with Pakistan she has the additional tie of a common basic religion.

### Ties With India

Mr. Ali Zabeer, the Indian Ambassador to the court of the Shah, has been active in trying to promote good relations between the two countries, particularly in the cultural sphere. Under his inspiration, an Indo-Persian Cultural Society has been founded and was opened recently at a ceremony which was attended by the Persian Foreign Minister and many Iranian and foreign notables. Closer economic ties between Iran and both India and Pakistan are being considered by the respective governments and this preliminary "feeling of the way" is expected to result in due course in the signing of trade agreements.

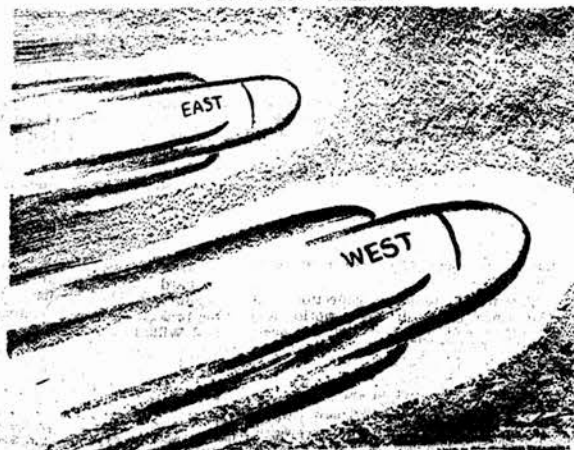
With Afghanistan, Persia still has to settle the thorny dispute above the Hirmand river. The waters of this river, after rising and flowing through most of its course in Afghan territory, are used to irrigate Persian Sistan Province. The old quarrel has been exacerbated by several years of drought as well as by Sistani suspicions of an Afghan project for a new irrigation canal to be fed by the river.

However, international arbitration is being sought to settle this problem and the reception given to the King of Afghanistan, when he passed through Tehran recently, was considered both in Kabul and Tehran, to have gone far towards improving the relations between the two countries.

Ever since the days of the great "Grey Wolf" of Turkey, Kemal Ataturk

(Continued on page 27)

### 'WHERE WILL IT TAKE US?'



# Children's Own Corner

CONDUCTED BY

## BALKAN-JI-BARI-AKHIL HIND BALAK SANGH

My dear Sisters & Brothers,

LIKE all other seasons, Christmas too is here again, and I should like to take this opportunity to convey to my sisters and brothers the best of the season's greetings and wish them a very Happy New Year!

Dr. Anjilvel Matthew has explained in a small article what Christmas is. December is the month, he says, in which the birth of Jesus Christ is celebrated. December 25 is Christmas, which in Indian phraseology may be called 'Christa-Jayanti'. Nobody knows whether Jesus Christ was actually born on December 25, nor can one be sure that he was born in what is today known as A.D. 1, the first year of the Christian era. Many scholars think, from references in the Gospels to certain historical incidents narrated in Roman history, that Jesus Christ was actually born about five years earlier than the traditionally accepted first year of the Christian (A.D.) calendar. Similarly, December 25 according to the Gregorian calendar is not accepted in all Christian churches as the day of Christmas. The Eastern Churches—including the "Syrian" Church of Malabar and Travancore, the Coptic Church of Egypt and Ethiopia, and the Orthodox Church of Greece—do not accept the Gregorian calendar, but follow for all church purposes the Julian calendar. All Christian churches, however, agree in observing Christmas as one of the most important of the three days in the Christian calendar; and all friends of Christians and all admirers of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ regard Christmas as a day to be fittingly observed.

Jesus Christ is known as the Prince of Peace, and whenever there is trouble and distress people like to think of Jesus Christ. Not that they all are keen on following him in practice, but they somehow like to think of him even when they know that they are not entirely, nor even to any remarkable extent, willing to accept his leadership in actual life. His life reminds them of what they would have wished to do if they had always followed their own better impulses.

### Need of Season

Today in India we are in great trouble. Four millions of people—according to a very moderate calculation, possibly the actual number is still greater—on both sides of the river Jumna are homeless. They have been uprooted from villages or towns in which their fathers lived for many generations, and they are now wanderers without homes and without means of subsistence. Some of these people were poor and destitute, no doubt; but some of them were wealthy, and most of them had been living the lives of independence—earning to maintain themselves and their dependents without leading a parasitic life. As these have been driven out from their places, and are dependent upon the charity and goodwill of others, the whole thing has taken place in such a short time that people, who could otherwise have made satisfactory arrangements for themselves, are now wandering helplessly not knowing where to go and how to live. And to this a possibility of war stares us in the face. At this calamitous time people like to think of Jesus Christ. Also

it is appropriate that the day of the remembrance of his birth comes in the hardest and dreariest season that people have to face in the cold regions of the northern hemisphere—at a time when the cry repeatedly comes to our ears: "Give a blanket and save a life."

### The Spirit Of Christ

The spirit of Jesus Christ is not that of service that may be done if there is no way of avoiding it; it is the spirit of going out to see opportunities of serving even those who may not be able to appeal to us for help. "I came to seek and save that which was lost," he said.

To illustrate this spirit, a story told by Jesus may be reproduced here. An informal discussion was going on in a small group about service to God and service to one's neighbours, where one of those present querulously asked: "But who is my neighbour?" In answer to this question was the story told. In it we read of a priest, then of a man who belonged to the priestly community but was not himself a priest (this community was called the Levites), and then of a Samaritan, a member of an outside community that was despised and friendship with which was regarded "out of bounds" for self-respecting Jews. These three individuals came one after the other on a certain road, where they saw a wayfarer lying helpless, being robbed and wounded by highwaymen.

### Gospel Story

Let us read the story from one of the biographies of Jesus (The Gospel according to Luke, Ch. X):—

"And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and made trial of him saying, 'Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?' And he said unto him, 'What is written in the law? How readest thou?' And he, answering, said, 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.' And he said unto him, 'Thou hast answered right; this do, and thou shalt live.' But he, desiring to justify himself, said unto Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?'"

Jesus made answer and said: "A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho; and he fell among robbers, who both stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half-dead. And by chance a certain priest was going that way, and when he saw him he passed on the other side of the road. And in like manner a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed on by the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was; and when he saw him he was moved with compassion, and came to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring on them oil and wine; and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And on the morrow he took out two shillings, and gave them to the host and said, 'Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, I, when I come back again, will repay thee.' Which of these three, thinkest thou, proved neighbour unto him that fell among the robbers? And he said, 'He that showed mercy on him.' And Jesus said unto him, 'Go and do thou likewise.'"

It is worth noticing that Jesus question was not: "Who was this man's neighbour?" Instead he asked: "Who



Nasik Balkan-Ji-Bari workers photographed with Mr. Shewak Bhojraj and Shrimati Kusum Joshi (centre). Their President Seth Parmanand Bhatia is on the extreme right.

proved himself a neighbour to the man in distress?" A murderous man once asked, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Was he not, though? Yes, to a certain extent—to an extent not often realized by people—each man is his brother's keeper.

### ENOUGH OF THAT

Can you put stops in the right place in this sentence?—That that is that that is not is not.

Now look at it this way: That that is, is; that that is not, is not.

### KING OF BEASTS?

At Kemaman, in Malaya, a man was leading a buffalo to its work in the fields when he was attacked by an eight-foot tiger. The buffalo immediately sprang at the tiger, and after a fierce fight lasting 15 minutes drove it off.

This item of news adds colour to an old report recently reprinted. In 1849 in Madrid a crowd came to see a fight between a lion and bull. The lion came into the arena and jumped on the bull's back, but the bull soon shook him off and butted him severely. At that the lion would have no more to do with bull-fighting and ran away whenever the bull approached him.

A tiger was then released, but he took one look at the bull and went and sat down beside the lion. So there was the bull snorting and pawing the ground while the lion and tiger sat meekly side by side, and the crowd, cheated of its cruel sport, roared in disappointment.

### POCKET RADIO

A Kiel radio engineer has applied for a patent for a radio receiver which can be carried with ease in the pocket, and a German firm intends to start mass-production of the model before the end of this year.

Previous attempts to design pocket receivers have been thwarted by the size of the batteries required, but the new set is for AC or DC mains. It is about the size of a Leica camera, measuring less than six inches long, a little over three inches wide, and less

than one and a half inches thick. It weighs only about two pounds, including the rod aerial and leather case. The set employs three valves and a metal rectifier, and is equipped with a built-in loudspeaker.

All that remains now to make the perfect pocket set is for someone to invent tiny batteries of great efficiency.

### STAMP NEWS

A new set of Hungarian stamps commemorates the poet Sandor Petofi, who died 100 years ago.

The United States are to issue a stamp marking the return of the Wright Brothers' aeroplane from Britain.

Andrea Palladio completed the Basilica at Vicenza 400 years ago, and a new Italian stamp celebrates the event.

The Silver Jubilee of the reign of the Sultan of Brunei is shortly to be honoured by a small set of stamps.

### ORANGE BLOSSOM

Here is a way to grow little orange trees which will flower when a few months old.

Collect pips from really ripe oranges and put about 25 into a jar of water. Let them soak for a week, then plant the pips in a pot filled with soil. Put the pips in thickly, almost touching one another.

The fact that they have not much root room makes the plants come to flowering size much sooner than they would in the ordinary way. Keep the pot in a sunny window and, water daily. When the plants come up it should not be long before the white blossom appears.

### Balkan-Ji-Bari

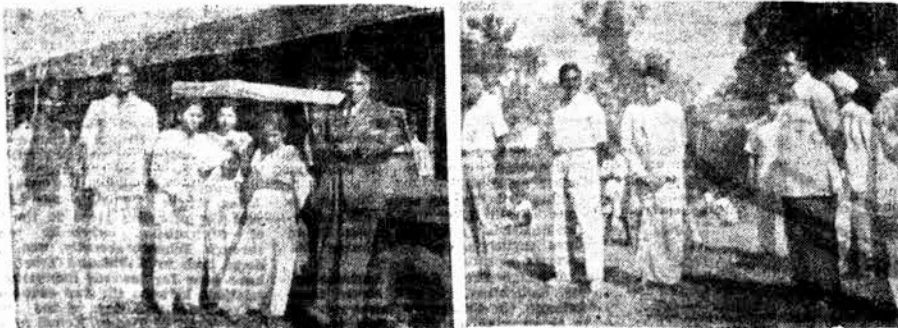
The Babar Road Unit of the Delhi Provincial Balkan-Ji-Bari arranged a cinema-show of great educational value for children with the co-operation of the Films Division of the Ministry of Education. One more Branch has been organized in the New Delhi—Gol Market area. Almost all its formalities have been completed and its formal opening will now soon take place. The Bahar Ganj Balkan-Ji-Bari has started a free 'night class' for the illiterate children of that area.

Everywhere the Balkan-Ji-Bari activities are going on stronger than ever.

Have you joined this great brotherhood? Please send for the full particulars of the Association from Dada "Gulistan", Khar-Bombay 21, mentioning your full name and address and age, and enclosing a one anna stamp for postage. Dada will be glad to hear from you always!

Jai Hind!

All Good Wishes from  
Your Loving  
Dada  
"GULISTAN", KHAR,  
BOMBAY 21.



Workers of the South Deolali and Lake Beale Balkan-Ji-Bari

# Talking of Books—

## HE TRIUMPHED OVER VOICE HANDICAP

ACTORS of the present day ignore interruptions by their audiences, but those of an earlier generation were quick to score off both intentional and unintentional interrupters. In this respect, the late John Barrymore belonged to the older school. During one performance of "Richard III," says Gene Fowler in *Good Night, Sweet Prince: the Life and Times of John Barrymore* (Hammond Hammond, 21s.), when Barrymore entered with the cry, "A horse! A horse! My kingdom for a horse!" He had hardly delivered his penetrating vocals regarding the need of a charger than some gentleman in the balcony emitted the loudest "guffaw" since the days of Rabelais.

Barrymore, encased in black armour, raised his sword towards the balcony, and, without departing one beat from the iambic pentameter of the Bard, called out: "Make haste, and saddle yonder braying ass," writes Winifred Wallace in *John O'London's Weekly*.

Coughing audiences always infuriated Barrymore, and he adopted various methods of quelling them. While he was playing in *Redemption* in New York an influenza epidemic caused an unusually bad outbreak of coughing which reached a crescendo one evening when Barrymore was in the middle of a scene with a "dying" actor; so without getting out of the scene, but improvising to the tune of the coughers, Barrymore asked: "But do you remember dear old Uncle Joe Seabrook? A stomach cough got him. What a fine old hucker he was. Just like the seals in this God-damn audience!"

### Man Of Temper

His temper also got the better of him during a love scene with Constance Collier in *Peter Ibbetson*, when a girl in the gallery, hysterical with delight, giggled. Jack called out: "Damn it! If you think you can play this better than I can, come on down and do it."

He hurled the bouquet into the audience. It struck a woman in the face. The curtain fell. Barrymore stomped off-stage to his dressing-room to lock himself inside it. The manager of the theatre threatened to sue him for damages, saying that his theatre's reputation was ruined, and urged Miss Collier to make a speech of apology, offering to refund the audience's money. This she refused to do. After half an hour the curtain rose again for the second act. When the time came for Barrymore's entrance, says Mr. Fowler, the presence that mysteriously was his on any stage, and always would be strangely his, spread its electric influence over the whole house. He received the wildest sort of applause. Cheers even, and the waving of women's kerchiefs.

Barrymore's early ambition was to be an artist. Although his parents were both on the stage (his mother's family, the Drews, had been actors for many generations). Neither he nor his sister and brother had originally any intention of taking up the same career. Mr. Fowler says that their collective testimony reveals that they never had aspired to become actors, for, once they had put on the paints and wings, enjoyed their work; "... We became actors," Ethel says, "not because we wanted to go on the stage, but because it was the thing we could do best."

For a short time, when he was still in his teens, John Barrymore studied at the Slade School (Orpen was one of his contemporaries there) and later, having returned to America and decided to combine journalism with art, was employed by one of the Hearst papers to illustrate, among other things, the poems of Ella Wheeler Wilcox. He had, however, an unfortunate habit of disregarding the texts he was supposed to illustrate: Mrs. Wilcox at length complained of the irrelevancy of the pictures to her dithyrambs. When Jack attached a sketch of a hangman and a victim of the noose to one of her *Poems of Passion*, Mrs. Wilcox telephoned Mr. Brisbane, demanding an interview with "this Barrymore person, who apparently is too senile, and too far gone with dissipation, even for the reading of a poem, not to mention the illustrating of metrical thought." Barrymore called on Mrs. Wilcox, who, although she was so surprised at being confronted by a mere boy that she presumed he

## Barrymore On Stage & Screen

was deputising for his father, was eventually won over and wrote to the editor requesting that "no one other than young Barrymore ever be permitted to illustrate her work." In spite of this, it was not long before Barrymore was, quite politely, given the sack, after which he was often to be found at Luke O'Connor's bar at the Columbus Hotel in Greenwich Village, favourite haunt of journalists and artists.

The bartender at Luke O'Connor's was not a good bartender. Yet he was a remarkable fellow withal, a dreamer

and word-smith, of the sort that commanded the lasting regard of O. Henry and Stephen Crane, and of many others less celebrated than these flag officers of the literary fleet.

### Shakespearean Actor

He was known as John Hunter, and the first thing about him that impressed Barrymore was the care he took in preparing broiled fish, of which he was particularly fond. O. Henry, says Mr. Fowler, saw in Hunter a man

### HINDI BOOKS

'GRAMSEVAK DAS KARYAKRAMA' Translated by Ram Narayan Chowdhary. Published by the Navjivan Prakashan Mandir, Ahmedabad—Price Rs. 1-4 (1949).

Shri Jugatram Dave, a noted village uplift worker of Gujarat, has written a book on this subject in Gujarati. This book is a translation into Hindi of that book, which has already been noticed in these columns. As the result of his long experience as a worker in the field of the betterment of the drab life of village men and women, Mr. Dave has propounded the principles or rather directions in which the work should be undertaken, such as village hygiene or cleanliness, popular education, health centres, self-reliance, groups of boys and girls vowed to service, etc. It is written in popular and simple Hindi, and hence should prove popular wherever that language is spoken.

"K."

## IRAN RIDES EAST WEST WAVES

(Continued from page 25)

for whom the late Reza Shah had an especial regard, relations between Persia and Turkey have been most cordial.

One of Persia's close friends in the Middle East is Transjordan, the recent visit of whose King, Abdullah, was sealed by the signing of a treaty of friendship. This is a new development and is in keeping with Persia's increasing awareness of her unique position in the Muslim world and of her declared intention not to take any action in the Middle East "which might damage the interests of Islam"—this last bearing particular reference to her relations with Israel.

### British Experts

Persia's long-standing relationship with Britain now awaits the presentation to the sixteenth Majlis of the recently negotiated Supplemental Agreement to the 1933 concession granted to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. Meanwhile, relations between the two countries are correct and friendly.

Outside the company, Englishmen are working side by side with Americans to help the Persians with their Seven-Year Plan, notably the members of the great engineering firm of Sir Alexander Gibb. There are British advisers in several Government departments and British experts have been called in to help Persia's forestry organisation. Many British traders, merchants and representatives of English and Empire firms have the closest relations with their Persian counterparts.

Today Persia looks to Britain as well as to the United States to help her achieve a standard of living for her people, worthy of their natural intelligence and the glories of their past.

(Copyright)

## MAKER OF SOVIET THEATRE

(Continued From Page 7)

would rise early—in summer at six in the morning—go over his role, have his tea and be off to a rehearsal. After an early dinner he would retire for a nap or was wont to pace-up and down his room, his arms behind his back. Among young people he appeared the most youthful of all and was the most ardent in discourse when the subject was close to his heart.

### True Friends

Shchepkin could be a true friend, which is borne out by his calm departure to London to visit Hertzsen, a political emigre, the undertaking itself viewed as reprehensible. He also visited Turgenev who had fallen into disfavour, in his village.

Already in his declining years, Shchepkin, undaunted by the difficulties of covering with horses (there were no railways then) the long journey to Nizhni-Novgorod, in frost and a snowstorm, visit the exiled poet Taras Shevchenko and spent six days with him.

Shevchenko wrote the following in his diary: "Mikhail Semenovitch left at midnight. Six days. Six days of radiant, elevated living. And how shall I repay thee, my old, my only friend? For those happy, sweet tears. By love? But I love thee long, and who that knows thee, does not love thee?"

Extremely exacting to himself when it concerned his art, Shchepkin had said: "There are no minor roles, there are minor actors."

In general there was no such thing as a "minor" thing to him. Whatever he undertook, he put his heart and soul in it. Art and the Maly Theatre, he loved so dearly, he set above all things.

He wrote to Gogol: "I had two masters in my life the stage and the family. To the former I gave everything, did it in good faith, so that art will have no grievance where I am concerned: I acted indefatigably, to the best of my reason, and I have done full justice to it."

The truth of this was acknowledged by all—society, his friends and his pupils, many of whom subsequently developed into wonderful actors.

Shchepkin died in 1863. On his tombstone the simple words were engraved—"Here lies an artist and a man."

### BAD LUCK

THE piccolo player was a habitual grumbler. One day the band was playing before a rich Eastern potentate, who was so pleased with the performance that he commanded that all the instruments should be filled with gold coins.

There you are," sighed the piccolo player, "that's a typical example of my luck. Mine is the smallest instrument in the band."

The bandmen spent the money in a wild spree—with the result that the next performance was not so good.

The Eastern potentate was furious and ordered the bandmen to ram their instruments down their throats.

The piccolo player turned to his colleagues. "My bad luck again," he said. "Mine is the only one that will go down."

of imagery, philosophy, spirit and perception. "I think," O. Henry remarked to his companions at Luke's, "that we shall reckon with this good fellow one day."

Mr. Hunter somewhat fulfilled O. Henry's prediction in after years when, under the name of John Masfield, he became poet laureate of England.

Barrymore had been established as a successful actor for many years when he decided to play Shakespeare, but Mr. Fowler quotes Arthur Hopkins as saying:

"Jack's chief handicap for the poetic classics was a furry voice. There was a rasp which one feared could only be removed by a surgical miracle. It was characteristic of Jack to know that he had to find a new voice. He never deceived himself about his handicaps nor did he believe that by other compensations they could be got around."

He placed himself in the hands of Margaret Carrington, a retired opera singer and expert voice coach, who later wrote that it is common knowledge among the coaches that a voice never before or since Barrymore's has been "built" in six week's time.

After triumphant successes in America with *Richard III* (in which, because he wore real armour, he got badly bruised after real armour, he decided to become an actor-manager and put on *Hamlet* in London. Here again he was handicapped by his voice. Constance Collier did her best to help him.

They went, week after week, to the managers, in the endeavour to hire a theatre. "Just as success seemed near," said Constance, "Jack would spoil everything by putting on a tough voice. The manager would be shocked. 'How can you expect in England,' an impresario would ask, 'the home of Shakespeare, a man to be any good with a voice like that?'"

### Voice Culture

Eventually Miss Collier, by doing most of the negotiating herself, persuaded Frederick Harrison to let Barrymore have the Haymarket Theatre for six weeks. When the arrangements had been completed, says Mr. Fowler, Constance introduced Jack to the reserved Mr. Harrison. "Jack started conversing very well," says she, "but gradually sank into that tough voice. Mr. Harrison's face was a study; but it was too late, the Haymarket directors already had put their names to the contract! The manager must have suffered tremendously meanwhile, but on the first night Jack's exquisite diction and lovely voice absolutely overwhelmed the English audience."

Constance Collier also explained why it was that a series of actors took the part of Laertes. In *Ophelia's* grave, she said, Jack fought Laertes with the greatest realism, as if he were attacking a true opponent. He actually hated the actors who played the part. In the end each Laertes had to give up and send in his notice and retire—covered with scars. Then another bright, young-faced actor, full of enthusiasm, would take his place!

Hollywood was at its most extravagant and exotic during the years that Barrymore was one of its most temperamental stars. Between 1925 and 1935 his film earnings totalled £500,000, most of which he spent on his Beverly Hills estate with its amazing aviary, on his two yachts, and in paying alimony to his ex-wives (he was married four times).

### Great Contemporaries

*Good Night, Sweet Prince*, though it does not gloss over Barrymore's weaknesses, including his great capacity for cheap, strong drink, is written out of obvious affection for a man whose friends included Sir Max Beerbohm, prize fighters, Winston Churchill, a troupe of dwarfs, and Einstein—who said, "Several mathematicians understand my theories, but of all persons it is an actor, John Barrymore, who discusses them the most intelligently." And, in telling Barrymore's story, Mr. Fowler has recreated a seemingly fabulous picture of American stage and film life from the end of the last century to the early years of the present decade.

## Let us talk it over—

WITHERING spinters, portly matrons and lissom maidens who made a large section of the anti-Hindu Code Bill demonstrators at the Council Hall in Delhi should have paused a moment before making a common cause with the male opponents of the Bill and considered if such participation on their part could have been possible without molestation from street urchins or bad characters had social and religious reformers in by-gone years taken heed of the "religion in danger" cry raised by reactionary forces from time to time.

It should be obvious to the meanest intelligence that but for the foresight and courage of these great men, many out-dated and inhuman practices like 'sati', compulsory widowhood, child marriage, untouchability, to mention only a few, would have continued resulting in total ruination of society in this ancient land of ours. Woman would have remained helpless, ignorant, incapable of independent thought and would have hugged the very fetters that reduced her to a position of a chattel. It is a thousand pities that even when so much has been achieved by the partially emancipated Indian womanhood, there should still be a section in our country destitute of sticking to the old ideas which have caused their own degradation.

But then, this strange phenomenon is nothing but a triumph of the cunning genius of man! For, this opposition of women to progressive forces does not come out of self-conviction. That is not to say that these women are all an ignorant lot. Some of them are educated and gifted with the powers of speech-making and quite a few seem to have the 'dharma Granthas' like the Smritis and Upasishads on their tapering finger-tips. But notwithstanding this learning, that peculiar mentality of a long and much protected person (showing lack of self-confidence) clings to them. Naturally they feel that anything which does not have the sanction of men cannot be for the welfare of society. The self-appointed trustees of people's religion and morals are quick enough to take advantage of this state of mind.

So they assume yet another pose of being the well-wishers of women and try to point out to them that the right to divorce (included in the new bill) would mean unbridled freedom for men and still more misery for women. In order to convince the latter they argue that a divorcee would be regarded with suspicion by society while the divorced man would have no difficulty in finding another spouse. The large mass of our superstitious and illiterate womenfolk who still look upon the husband as their lord and master are easily taken in by this kind of argument. Naturally, they think it more preferable to suffer the misery and humiliation of a discordant marital union than become an object of public derision.

Similar methods of reasoning are resorted to in respect of the right of inheritance which is granted in the provisions of the Hindu Code Bill. Patent among the arguments is that men will marry girls mainly for the share they may get in the father's property! Isn't it curious that those chaps are conveniently blind to the many instances occurring even at present wherein a fat-salaried or a foreign-retained boy chooses the girl who brings in more dowry without caring two hoots to know anything of her cultural background or intellectual leanings? But these people overlook the other possibilities. When this long-due reform comes in the marriage market will not be ruled by the bidding of men alone. A girl with a share in father's property is more likely to marry a man of her choice even if he happens to come from a family less well-off than her own. At present what more often happens is that the girl's parents wish to give a big sum of dowry to a rich son-in-law than to a poor but really deserving young man of their daughter's choice.

According to these people there is one more disadvantage that women will have to put up with if given a share in the father's property. It is pointed out by them that property and woman's sole right to it would provide a ground for domestic friction between the husband and the wife. But then this possibility is apprehended in cases where the wife is also an earning member of the family. But the remedy for it does not lie in asking her to give up her job. Such matters will always have to be decided by mutual agreement. Responsible persons venturing on the high waters of

## IN TITLE ROLE OF 'CARMEN'



Polish-born Eugenie Kareska, wife of Maj. E. Sedgwick, seen at Convent Garden Opera House in the title role in 'Carmen'. She sings in English, French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish and Ukrainian.

## QUAINT CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CUSTOMS

(Continued from Page 4)

pole with its blazing clavier was then thrust firmly into this durie, while the onlookers formed a ring around it to watch it burn out. As the flames died down the stones of the durie were suddenly flung aside by a few of the "torch-bearers", so that the clavier toppled and the glowing embers flung amongst the crowd. A rushing scramble to secure them followed, for they were greatly prized as sure charms against witchcraft and the evil eye.

### In Other Lands

The turn of the year, must have been widely regarded as an auspicious time to dispose of evil spirits, for the hide-clad exorcists and clavier devotees of Scotland had their counterparts in many other countries. In Silesia, for instance all evil spirits were smoked out of the house by huge fires of green wood. In the Tyrol they were circumvented by incense and Holy Water, and in pre-Bolshevik Russia they were thrashed into flight by young girls armed with wands or else brought down on the wing by marksmen with salvos of small shot. Today most of these valiant I guess are launching a more sure campaign against visible foes.

Evil spirits having thus been disposed of by Hogmanay ritual, New Year's Day was devoted to care-free festival and even to consulting kindly spirits as to the events of the coming year. One popular mode of divination employed a row of plates. Having been blindfolded, the inquirer advanced until his extended forefinger

matrimony will not allow what is an asset to become a rock on which their ship of life will founder. And after all is said and done, it must be admitted that this particular aspect concerns only a small minority of our people for the rest of them have no properties to bequeath to their offsprings. Nevertheless this change is necessary because it will change the status of woman bringing her on par with man.

—Leela

## SHE HAD A WAY WITH CHILDREN

DURING a long wait at a terminus, a passenger saw an attractive girl barely in her teens approach a young mother with two fretful babies and ask with a friendly smile: "May I look after your children while you rest for a while?"

For nearly an hour the girl entertained the children, then helped the mother to their train. Then she assisted three other harassed mothers. Eventually some one asked if she were waiting for a train.

"No," she replied. "I live nearby with my aunt and haven't anything to do after school. You see"—and her voice broke—"there were five of us, and when we travelled mother got so tired... Daddy was in the war. Mother died a few weeks ago... She always said I had a way with children. So I come here and help tired mothers."

## TRUTH ABOUT SANTA CLAUS

(Continued from page 4)

ing to Italy, became their immediate concern.

The remains were found, and the bones (it is said) were seen to exude a distillation of obvious miracle-working properties. To preserve this, one of the party wrapped the precious relics in a cloak, placed them in a barrel, and on May 8th, 1087, arrived with them off the port of Bari.

Immediately a dispute arose as to who should have the custody of the relics, and the sailors refused to hand them over until they were guaranteed that a new church would be erected for their reception.

The ancient residency of the Byzantine Emperors was given to them, and the crypt of what is now known as the Basilica of San Nicola was constructed to receive the remains.

As seen today, the basilica is marked by heavy internal transverse arches which connect the piers of the nave. These were put up to strengthen the structure after it was shaken by an earthquake. A large quake in 1451 did further damage, and many of the small windows were walled up.

The ceiling of the basilica is of carved and gilded wood, with paintings depicting the life and miracles of Saint Nicholas. In the crypt is the tomb itself, concealed by much fine silver-work, including gifts from King Orosia of Serbia, and ornate silver lamps presented by Czar Nicholas of Russia.

Memorials to several European monarchs may be seen within, while sculptured on a bishop's throne are numerous Arab figures to commemorate the defeat of the Saracens. And there, under it all, sleeps Santa Claus.

full of toys the next morning, while in Spain the practice is to place a basket before the window on the 6th of January, for the Wise Men of the East to come and leave gifts just as they once did to the Infant Child.

The lighting of the Christmas candle is a custom popular to Ireland where in every village street there is a tall candle kept lighted, which symbolises the light which first shone on the world from the lowly manger of Bethlehem.

Christmas and New Year greetings exchanged by means of cards are also a common feature of the festive season.

In Poland the custom is entirely different, and a token of good wishes is a wafer made of flour and stamped with different figures. Here it is also customary to assemble together the members of the family and break a wafer and distribute it on Christmas Eve, when the first star appears in the sky. In many Western countries young children especially go around singing Christmas carols in praise of the new born King and Saviour.

In Poland the carol singers dress as birds and animals, probably because of the belief that all animals are able to talk on Christmas day.

May we all have a holy and happy Christmas full of fun, gifts, parties and surprises.

### Christmas Crib

Christmas, however, to Christians everywhere, means attending the mid-night Mass held to honour the birth of Christ and in every church you will find the scene of the holy night in Bethlehem reproduced in a Christmas crib. It is said that the first crib was introduced by St. Francis of Assisi at Graccio and the custom then spread far and wide throughout the world. It is also believed that the Christmas tree was first introduced by St. Boniface in the 8th century when he replaced the Druid sacrifices to the Sacred Oak by a fir tree adorned in tribute to the Christ child. It was introduced as late as 1840 in England, by Prince Albert (husband of Queen Victoria).

Santa Claus is a well known figure to all of us and particularly to children who hang stockings on their beds on Christmas Eve expecting him to come down the roof and fill them with toys and sweets, while they are asleep. This happy belief originated from the story of St. Nicholas, who was a great friend of children and who brought them gifts. His feast is celebrated on the 6th of December. What is less known however, is the fact that Santa Claus or St. Nicholas is also the patron-saint and protector of many picturesque vocations and is appealed to by thieves, gangsters, pawnbrokers, pirates, spinsters and sailors. The "Knights of St. Nicholas" is another name for the light-fingered gentry.

In France it is not stockings but wooden shoes that the children place on the hearth and expect to find them

# ART NOTES *By D.G. Vyas.*

**DEMOCRACY** is not merely a political order of things or a particular pattern of Government. It has its economic, social, educational and cultural aspects which cannot be ignored if the State has to be built up on the foundation of equality, liberty and justice.

In its true sense, it should offer equal opportunity to every individual for all-round development. In society which is organised on a democratic basis, arts should be equally accessible to all sections of the people. India has yet to go a long way to realise this ideal. Rightly speaking she has to revert to the artistic order from which she had swerved during the dark period of political subjugation.

## Monopoly Of Culture

During the past, arts were a heritage of the people, and the people were also for arts. The link between life and arts was vital and indissoluble. The relics of culture—which are still discovered in the unsophisticated village life, will corroborate this statement if they are properly analysed. Since cities have arrogated to themselves the leadership in matters artistic and cultural, artists and arts of village-folks have come to be regarded as a primitive and, therefore, inconsequential.

Monopoly is repugnant to the very concepts of democracy. However in the politically transformed India the tendency to reserve art-appreciation and acquisition of culture for the privileged class has continued almost undiminished. Monopolists usually belong to the educated and rich sections. It is surprising to find such persons, who have claimed to be the elite, hankering after acquisition of culture and particularly its aesthetic element. Really amusing are the contradictions like these in the art and cultural movement initiated and headed by culture-seekers in the fold of the educated aristocracy.

"Art for the people" is the fascinating objective of this movement, but in effect it is nothing more than a mere slogan. To the aspirants for culture, art is needed as a fashion, luxury and pastime and for the same reason they have kept arts out of reach of the people. Fastidious persons, who gather together in an exhibition hall on the occasion of the customary inauguration of art-shows, do not make the people. Likewise the people do not feel the vibrations of beauty of dance-art when the well-to-do audience holds a fashion parade.

## Exclusion Of Real Artists

Not only have cultured coteries and aristocratic groups withheld art from the people, but they have propagated sophisticated concepts of dance, music and drama. The art-functions organised by them set faulty standards by establishing the reputation of half-trained amateur artists and ill-informed scholars—their favourites—as authorities on various arts. The worship of false gods has, thus, led to the propagation of the concepts of arts which are not consistent with the latter's authentic technique and which, the aspirants for culture are first to imitate as such.

Lectures, discussions and demonstrations are, according to the organisers, intended for the people, but they are generally held in English—a language—which is unintelligible to the vast bulk of the people. Again accredited masters of music and dance are scrupulously excluded from such functions, and their rightful place is respectfully conceded to amateurs and semi-professionals who happen to be either their second or third generation pupils or "masters without gurus."

## Fashionable Arts

In the functions intended for the exposition of the artistic and music element of culture, difficult instruments, various modes of singing and high classical technique of dance are rarely

**Culture reserved by the 'privileged'—Monopoly of art movement—Propagation of faulty standards—Supercilious indifference to people—Musicians and their academy—What is Oriental music?—Arrested growth of towns—Banganga faces destruction.**

represented. One wonders what the aspirants for culture gain in the absence of certain essential elements of the pattern of Indian culture. The fact is that high music and dances are and will remain a caviere to them because they cannot imagine that there was much of art beyond what their favourite artistes were capable of demonstrating and expounding to them.

The cultural movement is proceeding apace and at the same time it is steering clear of the people. Social education is also intended for the benefit of the people, but its festivals like the one which was recently celebrated on a grand scale in Bombay give more publicity to their organisers than education to the illiterate and poor people. Rural areas have not yet felt the impact of the educational and cultural movement because the latter is restricted to the cities which need it the least, when art will be introduced to the rural areas as a medium of social education, it will, in all probability, be amateurish and spurious in

mire it only when dance and music forms of village-folks are crudely imitated by "their" artists on the stage. True culture does not admit prejudices or preferences or limitations to the sense of appreciation. The urban movement aims at the elimination of real artists and ignore the people, their art forms and artistic expression, and the Government has for its plans for encouragement to arts, relied upon this misguided movement for guidance.

## Urgent Wants Of Music

At a press conference at New Delhi, India's Minister for Education, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad announced "with regret" a 25 per cent economy cut in the budget of his Ministry. The suspension of the scheme of the National Cultural Trust was again confirmed by him. As regards arts, he admitted that his Ministry was not able to do much for their development. For music, he said, the beginning was

study of Oriental, vocal and instrumental music were announced as the subjects of the competition. India has two schools of classical music—Hindustani and Carnatic. There is nothing like "Oriental" music between them. However it will be interesting to learn from the organisers, the exact significance of the term "Oriental" in the context of Indian music.

Dhrupad, which is fast losing ground, partly on account of the persecution by its opponents of the Khyal sect, has, it is gratifying to note, been included in the programme. One, however, fails to understand why 'Rabindra music' has been listed as a separate item. Perhaps no music conference or competition could be held in Bengal if 'Rabindra music' was not advertised as a special branch. When there is another anomaly which cannot be lost sight of. The competition has been styled as Inter-varsity but its scope has been restricted to the zone of the Hindustani school. The Carnatic school has been assigned no place in the programme.

## Rebuff To Municipalities

In a speech at Farukhabad, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru asserted that though he visited the town after twelve years, he noticed no significant change in it. The slowness of the pace of progress, rightly observed he, was a common feature of most of the towns and cities in India. It should be attributed, to some extent, to the lack of imagination and progressive outlook on the part of persons who dominate the municipal administration. Towns do not grow, because those, who direct their destinies, themselves do not 'grow'. Progressive and orderly development of the town according to a well-knit plan should be the watchword of every municipality, but municipalities with few exceptions have but fully realised the significance and implications of civic art and hence the stunted or disorderly growth of towns.

Pandit Nehru deprecated the interpretation of civic duty in the terms of presentation of addresses to high dignitaries and customary solicitation, on such occasions, for help from the Government. Civic addresses have come to be a routine function of municipalities, but they should be rare and reserved for special occasions. Ministers and other high dignitaries will give some incentive to the growth of towns, if they will decline to accept addresses of welcome from the municipalities which have no progress or achievements to show to their credit. Repeated refusal by them will discourage municipalities with blank records to face them.

## Threat To Banganga

Bombay Municipality seems to be more enthusiastic in destroying than in preserving or creating things. Here is a fresh instance. The Corporation's Improvement Committee has recently authorised the Municipal Commissioner to approach the Government in order to acquire the Banganga tank at Walkeshwar with a view to filling it up with earth and converting it into a park. Drowning tragedies, suicides and unclean condition of water are not valid reasons to perpetrate this vandalism. The Municipality is in a position to avoid them and to make the tank cleaner and safer.

Citizens must protest against the proposal for the destruction of one of the few relics of the past. They should moreover, force the Municipality to renovate the temple and tank and restore to them the glory that has faded through neglect. Bombay has lost much of its heritage of old relics. It should now see that the Banganga tank is not placed on the list of casualties of the Municipality. If the Improvement Committee is incapable of "improving" old sites and spots, it should at least desist from "impairing" any of them.



A Classic Persian Painting

character—which is the standard of aristocratic groups which dominate the organisation of social education.

## This Is Appreciation

Art is sought after by fastidious aspirants for culture for appreciating beauty. Artistic appreciation is admittedly one of the characteristics of truly cultured life, but it must be intelligent and discriminating. To pronounce, as a specimen of child art, a painting which, to all appearance, is a copy of an adult's work, is a symptom of aesthetic morbidity; and to applaud, in the usual way, a vocalist in the absence of the ability to discriminate between Kedar and Ha-meer is hypocrisy and not music appreciation. The current movement would really contribute much to the cultural regeneration of the country provided it was directed towards cultivation of genuine appreciation of arts and was further extended to all sections of the people.

Apart from appreciation of beauty, artistic expression is also recognised as a characteristic of cultured life. The cultured individual's personality should show a distinct artistic touch at every point. Among villagers singing and dancing are spontaneous expressions and not deliberate or spectacular activities. The pseudo-culture which is distributed directly from its factories in cities has killed the individual artistic expression, but the people untouched by this pernicious influence have retained it.

High priests of the pseudo-culture movement and their followers, profess to be appreciators of beauty, do not directly appreciate the natural artistic expression among the people. They ad-

made by the establishment of two academies—one in the North and the other in the South.

Maulana Azad should have known by this time that musicians particularly in the North have shown little enthusiasm for the Academy at Lucknow. The Government has been guided by a Western ideal and not by the realities of the day. It has, somehow or other, got an impression that encouragement would be offered to the Hindustani School of classical music by extending patronage only to the Marris College at Lucknow and by constituting an academy with an 'appointed' personnel.

Musicians sing and play, they rarely speak. The apparent silence on their part should therefore, not be taken as their acquiescence in the project of the academic machinery set up by the Government. Not a few of them have signified their dissatisfaction with the unrepresentative character of the Academy, which was forced upon them. What musicians actually need is direct patronage to the accredited masters and encouragement to their traditional master-to pupil system of training. It is for the Government to reply how the Academy in the North proposes to supply these two urgent demands of music. Research and affiliation of institutions will be of no use if starving musicians do not get nutrition to enable them to sing.

Under the patronage of the Chancellor of the Calcutta University, an Inter-varsity Oriental Music Competition is to be held at Calcutta from December 30. Promotion of fellow-feelings among students of various universities and encouragement to the

# Planning Of Holiday Resorts

BY A. A. K. SHAIKH

MR. A. A. SHAIKH delivered an interesting talk on the design and execution of a holiday resort from the Town Planning point of view.

These resorts are classified under three main heads. One is the familiar sea-shore resorts like Juhu, Mad. Damon, Brighton, Folkstone, Duville, Riviera, Lido etc. and the second is the hill stations like Matheran, Mowar, Luzern, Zurich, and Alps Districts on the Continent, which exist all over India from Kashmir in the north to Cape Camorin in the south. The third is a spa in places like Vajreshwari with hot springs.

In India the hill stations are well known, for all the fashionable people frequent these stations, mostly in the hot weather.

With regard to holiday resorts in the plains, little is known barring Bangalore, which possesses best climate and where the retired people, more particularly Anglo-Indians have made their home.

For sea-shore resorts, they are few and far between. In and around the island of Bombay there are a couple of them: one is Juhu and the other Versova beach or Mad at an easily accessible distance from the city, where one, when he leaves office fatigued, can just run up and enjoy sound sleep in a shack or a cottage in the moonlight blue, if there happens to be one and sing a lullaby.

Then he described the factors that command immediate attention in regard to the design and equipment of the resorts, which in turn depend upon mentality of the crowd that flock there either at week-ends or stay for the season or continuously.

These are in general called "Pleasure Resorts", which combine both the restorative advantages of the seaside or hill stations. In the rear of these or at less important places in the vicinity, there grow with rapidity the residential areas of the retired classes or the local people who till the land, sow the seed, reap the harvest and lead semi-civilized life. Their wants are few and as they

lead a very simple life, they live to a longer period for obvious reasons.

## Planning

The less said about the architectural style the better. Because all are cottages or somewhere nearer to Dak bungalows of stereotyped nature with plenty of open lands which could be utilized either for a flower or fruit garden.

Before anything could be done for the architectural style of a place, one will have to study very carefully the psychology of those who frequent these places. In India all have got a peculiar fancy for a bungalow of bricks and timber. It is essential to know and study carefully the residents, visitors, trippers resorting to varying climes and other conditions. One must know their likes and dislikes and one must understand how far to respect them so that a layout and building could be arranged by a town-planner. Scientific planning here plays an important part. It becomes necessary for such a resort to be dealt with entirely as an independent unit regulated by topographical conditions, the nature of the site, seafront or a hill and the existing order of things.

The next question to be considered is that the visitors' requirements in this seaside planning and building need a very different technique from that applied to inland towns. On the seashore resort usually a semi-circular place invariably is the dominant feature and governs planning, and zoning as the terminal and base line feature.

The third question deals with the needs of the permanent residents of the place. Population is sometimes doubled and trebled and provision has to be made for the influx of trippers during holidays and at week-ends. Finally arrangements will have to be made for hotels, restaurants, entertainments buildings and places of public rest etc. Sanitation has to be designed with utmost care and economy in designs of various utilities, which may be temporary or permanent; we may have museums and exhibition places, so that people visiting the places may spend their time in study and leisure.

## European Resorts

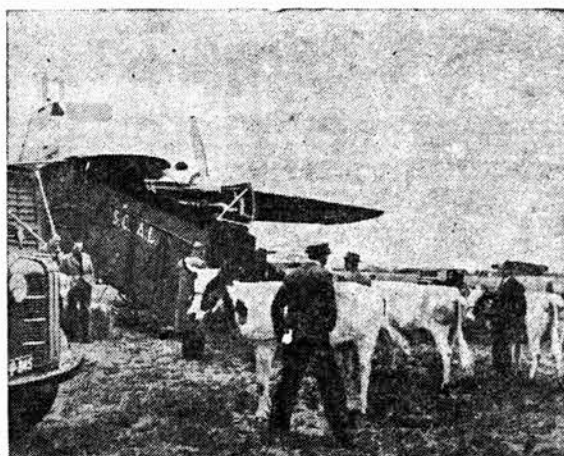
He also traced the history of the British seashore resorts and of some on the Continent as in the south of France and Italy and stated that some grew as sea-shore resorts 'ab initio', although they formed a very important phase of the British and the Continental national life. At many places there has been confused planning with the result that traffic congestion, unsatisfactory hotels and boarding houses and an untidy beach form the order of the day. We see at these resorts stereotyped designs of bandstands, halls etc.

For a hill station circular planning will be most suitable, but as hills form a resort, we will have to modify the layout to suit the romantic nature of the place consistent with the vehicular-pedestrian traffic

## Spas

The inland pleasure resort finally can have a spa arrangement either

## AYRSHIRE HEIFERS BY AIR



Pedigree cattle leaving Britain for transport by air to Malta. This consignment, flown in a Bristol freighter aircraft, consisted of seven Ayrshire heifers.

artificial or natural. Medical history records that for centuries patients have resorted to natural springs for relieving their sufferings. In Europe we find elaborate establishments which care for the ailments of visitors. The study of mineral waters is called balneology and to the treatments as balneotherapy. Mineral waters are of thermal and non-thermal types. About 20 degrees C. is the diving point and below this is normal water.

There is the saline group either sulphate or chloride or both. The other is the alkaline group of carbonates or bicarbonates.

Their utility depends upon the amount of gas present and the method of administration.

The methods of administration are: Baths, Packs, Inhalations and Injections.

The physiological effects are thermal, mechanical, and chemical. The extremes of heat and cold are stimulating to body but a physician must order the requisite temperature. The mechanical influence depends upon the hydrostatic pressure and affects veins and lymphatics and exerts pressure on abdominal cavity thus aiding the return of the blood to the right side of the heart.

The chemical effects depend upon the gases. H<sub>2</sub>S is easily absorbed through the skin.

They have a wonderful influence when drunk under expert supervision. Chronic diseases dealt with are:—

- (i) Cardiovascular diseases of the middle and late life.
- (ii) Gastro-intestinal disorders.
- (iii) Border-line nervous conditions.
- (iv) Obesity and diabetes.
- (v) Skin conditions.
- (vi) Glandular disorders.
- (vii) Chronic catarrh and bronchitis.

Ordinary persons derive immense benefits from the programme of relaxation. The Spa regime lasts from two to three weeks.

The Government should provide supervision at Vajreshwari and other places.

## SHACKLES ON PRESS MUST GO

(Continued from page 23)

course to let the journalist stand or fall on his merit and its acceptability to the public. Under guise of setting up autonomous bodies like this we should not create a dictatorship to lay down what the public shall be told. The Medical Council conveys both a warning and a lesson.

Other measures have been from time to time advocated by others. In France, they brought forward legislation disallowing any one holding more than a tenth of the capital of a newspaper company. The illusory nature of this provision needs no elaboration. There is perhaps something to be said in favour of the Czechoslovak provision of Government printing presses for the newspapers irrespective of their politics. This does not touch the core of the problem, namely, the regimenting of news and views. Here competition and that sense of vocation inherent in every real journalist can alone be trusted. It was a favourite notion of Spender that the circulation of a newspaper should be restricted to a

minimum figure. There is also the proposal of an American writer that newspapers with a certain circulation and above should not have the privilege of concessions in carriage by post or train.

## Fetters Must Go

But whichever road we may roam, we come back ultimately to this. The fetters on the free functioning of the Press clapped on under pretence of suppressing disorder and the like in an era of transition, should be immediately removed. Far too much eloquence is expended over scurrilous and irresponsible journalism, forgetful of the fact that it is lack of freedom that ultimately leads to that kind of degeneracy. The freedom of the Press must be co-extensive with the freedom of the individual; neither more nor less. Alas! both are restricted to the minimum in this country today. A Free Press will be both fearless and because of competition and rivalry, also fair. That will be the surest guarantee of democracy. Mr. Sidhu's bill will retard rather than help the growth of such a Press.

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# DEISM SPRANG FROM SOLAR SYSTEM

## How Astrology Got Mixed Up With Religion

By Prof. J. B. S. Haldane

THREE important dates come within a fortnight at this time of year: Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and the shortest day, which was on December 21st or 22nd in different years. In most countries there is some festival about this time. In the primitive Christian church, Christmas was celebrated on various different dates, between November and May, March 25th being a common one. And calendar years may begin at any time. March, when plants begin their year in some parts of the world, was often chosen. However, it was usual to have a celebration when the days started getting longer, and naturally the further north people lived the more important was the date. So Yule was a festival among our ancestors long before they became Christians, and it suited them very well when the church decided to celebrate Jesus' birth on December 25.

It is curious that two or three thousand years ago people knew enough to fix the date of the shortest day. It is not so important as the coldest day, which generally comes in January or February. But it can be determined, because it is regular. We predict the time of sunset, and what is more important to ordinary people, lighting time, years ahead, and could do so hundreds of thousands of years ahead. We can't predict the coldest day, except on an average. And even the average can't be predicted with great certainty.

Science began with the observation of regular events. People saw that the apparent movements of the sun, moon and most of the stars were very regular, and they gradually found regularities in the movements of the planets, whose place relative to the other stars is constantly changing. Unfortunately this science got mixed up with religion, in a way which did harm to both. Some people thought the sun, moon and planets were gods, and worshipped them. Others thought they were somehow nearer to the supreme God, and more completely controlled by him than things on earth. This was bad for science, because it meant that particular theories about the heavenly bodies had a religious sanction, and it was dangerous to question them. It was also bad for religion, because people attributed a special holiness to those features of the world which were most mechanical.

### Sprang From Machine

The solar system can be explained mechanically, and is the nearest thing we know to a "perfect" machine working without friction. I have no doubt that some of the aberrations of religion, such as deism, according to which god created the world and left it to run on mechanical lines, and the extreme forms of Calvinism, sprang in part from this reverence for mechanism. In the same way, the prevalence of mechanistic materialism in much scientific thought, is due to its great success in the field of astronomy.

The same historical fact has led many scientists to think that their main job is prediction, not control. You don't usually find out the essential things about a system till you start changing it. Physics did not develop beyond the astronomical stage till Galileo started doing experiments with moving bodies. And I have not the faintest doubt that we have missed some fundamental principles in astrology because we cannot make astronomical experiments. We can predict the weather a few days ahead. But the predictions sometimes go wrong pretty badly, and long-range weather forecasts are still more uncertain. My own guess is that the growing point in meteorology is the experimental control of weather. This can be done to some extent. One can produce a local shower by dropping powdered crystals of solid carbon dioxide, or "dry ice," from an aeroplane. A few hundred planes could alter the weather quite a bit, causing rain to fall on the land if there is a drought, and on the sea if there is a danger of floods. This would be of considerably more value to Britain than

practising bombing, and would also help recruiting for the R.A.F. And if the history of science is any guide, it would give us a quite new insight into the causation of weather, so that within a few years weather forecasting would be greatly improved. Statistical methods are necessary in many fields. But an ounce of experiment is usually worth a pound of statistics.

### Heat V. Cold

In Europe, the coldest day usually comes well after the shortest day, and the hottest well after the longest, because the radiation of heat and light, that is to say, their motion through a transparent medium, is a very quick process, but the conduction of heat is a very slow one, even over distances of a few feet.

It takes a time measured in months for the upper layers of the ground to lose the extra heat stored up in them during a long spell of warm weather. The process is even slower in lakes, where owing to water movements, the temperature changes go down to a greater depth than in the soil. And it is slower still in the sea. In fact, around England the sea is usually warmest in September, and sea bathing at Christmas is not an heroic act, provided one can get warm on coming out. It is usually a good deal colder in March.

Such lags are, of course, very common, and occur in human affairs as well as in the weather. Sometimes the reason is obvious. For example, the birth-rate begins to rise nine months after a demobilisation. Sometimes it is not so obvious. For example, it takes a year or so before an economic depression has much effect on the marriage rate. The marriage rate certainly follows economic condi-

## A-BOMB STOCKPILE IN 9 MONTHS!

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Here is a clue as to how fast Russia might accumulate a stockpile of atomic bombs.

Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, noted physicist, appearing before the Special Committee on Atomic Energy of the Senate on Dec. 5, 1945, testified as follows on a similar point:

SENATOR TYDINGS. Assuming that 10 years from now atomic energy in many countries has been licensed by the government for peacetime manufacture and uses and that our country was one of them, what do you think would be the necessary time to construct the remaining 25 per cent of the process, for war purposes, of producing atomic bombs?

DR. OPPENHEIMER. It depends on the scale. If we wanted to have, I will say, 1,000 bombs, two years would be a lot of work and the whole country would feel it.

SENATOR TYDINGS. In other words, it would take two years?

DR. OPPENHEIMER. Yes, to accumulate 1,000 bombs.

SENATOR TYDINGS. If it were decided to make military bombs from our peacetime atomic energy, how long would it take us to complete 200?

DR. OPPENHEIMER. Maybe a little over a year.

SENATOR TYDINGS. How long would it take us to make 50?

DR. OPPENHEIMER. Maybe a year.

SENATOR TYDINGS. So that we are faced with the prospect—

DR. OPPENHEIMER. I think a year is too long; maybe nine months.

SENATOR TYDINGS. So, then, we are faced with the prospect, if countries were permitted to manufacture atomic energy for peacetime purposes and 10 years after, if they got the all-out and oriented themselves into production, you say that within nine months they can make 25 or 50 or 60 bombs thereafter for military purposes, utilizing that peacetime machinery?

DR. OPPENHEIMER. Not without. I would say, its being known; but it could do it.

## OUT-OF-ORDINARY RISKS

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(Continued from page 2)

and widely publicised before being returned to her silent past life in California.

The original clothing which Charlie Chaplin wore when he first conceived the idea for that sorrowful, pathetic character which he used to portray on the screen, consisted of a cutaway coat, baggy trousers, oversized shoes, and a bettered bowler hat. This dilapidated raiment was probably not worth more than a few shillings to an old-clothes dealer, yet once, when it was en route for exhibition in New York and Chicago, a firm of insurance brokers agreed to insure it for £12,000.

On the whole insurance firms are tolerant towards the peculiar whims of film stars but sometimes they tend to discourage them. For instance, Adolphe Menjou once toyed with the idea of permanently insuring his moustache for £6,000. He believed that anything so sophisticated and distinctive should be copyrighted, patented and preserved to himself.

"A £6,000 policy will cost £125 a year," said the insurance representative. The more Adolph thought about it, the more he became convinced that his moustache was not in such jeopardy—at least not to the extent of £125 a year. So he declined the policy.

### AMERICANS IN SPAIN

PARIS: 'Mundo Obrero', Spanish Republican newspaper reports that 54 larger air ports, 37 aerodromes and 8 naval air bases in Spain are under American control. The American military are building railways on the Iberian peninsula connecting naval and air bases and linking the North-Western Coast of Spain, Lisbon and Southern Spanish ports with the French frontier.

## BRITISH WORKERS STAND FIRST

British workers' attendance record is easily the best of all the big capitalist countries, in the world, according to figures published by the International Labour Office. Between 1945 and 1947 British miners, engineers, builders and transport workers lost an average of less than a quarter of a day a year each through industrial disputes. American workers in the same period lost 2.8 days a year, Canadian 1.4, French 2.1, Swedish 3.6 and Australian 1.5. Production is up, too. Figures show that industrial production in September was 11 per cent up on August and 6 per cent up on September, 1948.



Howard Schenken & Richard L. Frey

Neither side vulnerable. Both sides 60 on score. South dealer.

NORTH  
 ♠ K 8  
 ♥ 6 5 3 2  
 ♦ A 9 7 4  
 ♣ K Q 9

WEST  
 ♠ A 7  
 ♥ Q 10 9 4  
 ♦ Q 8 5 3 2  
 ♣ 6 2

EAST  
 ♠ Q 3  
 ♥ A J 7  
 ♦ K J 6  
 ♣ A J 10 8 6

SOUTH  
 ♠ J 10 9 6 5 4 2  
 ♥ K 8  
 ♦ 10  
 ♣ 7 4 3

The bidding:

| South | West   | North | East     |
|-------|--------|-------|----------|
| Pass  | Pass   | Pass  | 1♣       |
| 1♠    | 1 N.T. | Dbl.  | Pass     |
| 2♣    | Pass   | Pass  | 2 N.T.   |
| Pass  | Pass   | Dbl.  | All Pass |

with at notrump would have been equally useful to South at a spade contract, and in addition South's spades would surely be of value. South could have made three spades—losing only one spade, two clubs and a heart and while the opponents could have made three notrump, it is not likely they would arrive at that spot, and any other contract they reached could not have been made.

If you think your partner is a dope, you're entitled to your opinion. But it may be less costly to tell him so, in so many words after the hand is over than to announce your conviction more subtly during the course of the auction.

North knew he had bid correctly when he doubled West's one notrump overcall. But when his partner took out to two spades, he was warned that South had made a bid on distribution. After the smoke had cleared, he attempted to justify his double of two notrump by saying that since two notrump would give the opponents the game anyway, it was a "free" double. Later we'll count the cost.

North opened the spade king. West won with the ace and finessed the heart ten. South took the king and since there was now no hope of bringing in the spades, he returned a heart. East's ace won and the diamond king was led. North let this trick hold, but won the continuation of the jack with the ace and exited with his last spade. Since West had bid only two notrump, he could afford to play it safe by cashing his two good hearts, diamond queen and club ace, but actually since North didn't have another spade, West could have made three odd if pressed. On this result, North's double cost a mere 120 additional points.

But if North had really diagnosed the situation properly, instead of doubting he would have bid three spades! The cards he hoped to take tricks

## SIGNING IN



Mr. Phillips, Warden of Twysenden Manor, the Youth Hostel at Goudhurst, Kent, looks on while Mrs. Joan Cass signs the book on arrival. Watching her is her husband, Edward (extreme left) and in centre Mr. and Mrs. John

## COVERING BRITAIN

If you are going to Britain as one of her paying guests, then rest assured the amount you pay—however little—will make up difference in the warmth of your welcome. You can step off the boat at Glasgow, Liverpool, Plymouth, Southampton or Dover and within a few hours get to one of the "Youth Hostels". There you will get none of the service, the private suite or the Continental cooking of the expensive hotels, but the cost of a night's stay in a comfortable bunk bed, after a good, well cooked meal will be within your means.

## Subject For The Sketchbook



After spending the night at the Twysenden Manor hostel at Goudhurst these art students could not continue their tour until they had made sketches of the beautiful old entrance to the Manor.



For a small charge, members can get a good, hot meal after arrival at a Youth Hostel in the evening. Dining room at Twysenden Manor, Goudhurst, Kent.



These members—Jeanette Taylor, Geoffrey Fooks and John Penny—consult the map before starting off on the next lap of their cycle tour, after spending the night at the Youth hostel at Goudhurst, Kent.

## BED TIME



In the evening members of the Youth Hostel at Goudhurst have a final read before lights out at 10.30 p.m. For the comfort of members silence must be maintained in dormitories between 10.30 and 7 a.m.

## WARM WELCOME

The Youth Hostels Association in Britain is an efficiently run organisation which brings cheap holidays within the reach of all. It was founded in 1930, and is organised through a National Office at Welwyn Garden City, Herts, and through Regional Groups covering all England and Wales. It is a voluntary organisation run by its own members on a non-political and non-sectarian basis.

Membership of the Y.H.A. is limited to those travelling either afoot, or providing their own motive power such as cyclists and canoeists.

## They Cook Their Own Supper



All hostels provide cooking facilities for members who prefer to prepare their own meals instead of eating the meal provided by the hostel.